

Kaunda deplores Reagan rejection

LUSAKA (AP) — President Kenneth Kaunda says U.S. President Ronald Reagan's rejection of an invitation to visit southern Africa will hurt the situation in the region, according to a newspaper report. A story distributed Friday by the Zambia Daily Mail said Mr. Kaunda made the comment Thursday in an interview with Australian Television in Chingola, a copper-producing area. Mr. Reagan missed a chance to help reshape U.S. policy in southern Africa, Mr. Kaunda was quoted as saying. Mr. Kaunda and other leaders of the black-ruled states that border South Africa invited Mr. Reagan to meet with them to learn their views on sanctions against Pretoria's white-led government. A White House spokesman said Mr. Reagan rejected the meeting because he didn't have time for a trip to Africa.

Jordan Times

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Man hanged for killing father

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 25-year-old Jordanian man was executed by hanging at Al Mahara prison in Amman for murdering his father last year and burning the body. The criminal court found Hani Mousa Al Jafar guilty of the crime which was witnessed by his mother, Tonia, and brother, Atef, under threat to their lives. According to the prosecution's evidence, the victim, Mousa Shihab, was in his home with his wife and young son Atef four days before Hani killed him in 1985 when Hani barged into the house demanding that his father give him money immediately. But the father refused to give the son the money and the long-standing feud between father and son. The son Hani then attacked his father, gagging him and tying up his hands and legs. He then suffocated the man by covering his face with mattresses for 15 minutes. Later, the prosecution's statement said, Hani carried the body to an outdoor area where he burned it completely. He also threatened his mother and brother with death if they told anybody what had happened or reported the crime to the police, the statement added. Nothing was heard about the crime for a few days because the two witnesses were afraid to reveal it to anyone, according to the prosecution.

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Regent sends message to Moroccan premier

RABAT (Petra) — Moroccan Prime Minister Mohammad Karim Al Omrani on Friday received a message from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. The message was delivered to Mr. Omrani by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, who met with him and discussed bilateral relations. During his meeting with Mr. Omrani, Mr. Haj Hassan proposed that a meeting between officials from both countries be held to discuss scopes of cooperation in all fields.

Regent sends good wishes to N. Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Thursday sent a cable of good wishes to North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh congratulating him on the occasion of his country's national day (See page 2). Prince Hassan wished President Saleh continuing good health and happiness and the Yemeni people further progress and prosperity.

Israel jails Arab for 30 years

TEL AVIV (AP) — A military court has sentenced a Palestinian to 30 years in prison after convicting him for trying to infiltrate Israel in order to take hostages, the national news agency Itim said. The agency, quoting military sources, said Farouk Naser Al Ali, 20, of Syria, was charged with leading a group of three suspected guerrillas who tried to slip into Israel on March 1. The suspects were spotted by an Israeli army patrol and two of them were killed in an ensuing grenade and gunfire, the agency said. It said Ali threw several grenades at the Israeli soldiers, but later surrendered.

Mirghani invites rebels to talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Sudan's head of state, Supreme Council Chairman Ahmad Ali Al Mirghani, has urged rebel leader John Garang to resume peace talks on ending civil war in the south, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported Friday. "We have previously declared that the issue of the south cannot be settled by force," Mr. Mirghani told SPA in an interview. "We have invited him (Garang) to sit at the conference table with his brethren in the north and south for a democratic dialogue to settle this issue," Mr. Mirghani said. The SPA report, received in Bahrain, did not say where the interview took place.

Half of Chile blacked out

SANTIAGO (AP) — Leftist guerrillas blacked out half of Chile by blowing up two major power pylons in what a guerrilla spokesman called the beginning of an offensive against the state of siege. A spokesman for the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, a leftist guerrilla group, telephoned AP to say his organization was responsible for the blackout.

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Israelis and SLA allies storm S. Lebanese village and dynamite 4 houses

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers and their Lebanese militia allies stormed a village in U.N.-policed South Lebanon on Friday and dynamited four houses, Lebanese police said.

The attack by Israeli soldiers and militia of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) was against the village of Yater, 16 kilometres southeast of the port city of Tyre, police said.

A spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) confirmed that four houses were blasted in Yater during a three-hour "search operation," which started at 9 a.m.

The search was carried out by "personnel from a position on the outskirts of Yater manned by the Israeli forces and the SLA," said the spokesman.

The attackers "blocked access to Yater by UNIFIL personnel. They blasted four houses, three of them unoccupied, but no casualties were reported," he said.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Shamir said a recent

calling for the withdrawal of its remaining troops from Lebanon and the deployment of U.N. peace-keeping at the international border.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said tensions had abated along the Israeli-Lebanon border after two days of heightened military activity this week, Israel Radio reported Friday.

Responding to an alleged military buildup in Lebanon and attacks against the SLA militiamen, Israel has carried out two air raids within 48 hours of sending more troops across the border.

Israeli warplanes on Thursday bombed an outpost of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) south of the port of Sidon. Lebanese security sources said one fighter died and three civilians were wounded.

Two days earlier, Israel launched an air raid against what it said were bases near Beirut belonging to Syrian-backed Abu Musa and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

UNIFIL mission seems nearing end, page 2

Israel 'must come to its senses' and recognise Palestinian rights — Morocco

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Morocco said Thursday Israel "must come to its senses" and realise that its own interests impelled it to put an end to an attitude that undermined the path to peace.

In a speech to the General Assembly, Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdul Latif Filali said: "The attainment of this objective can be attained only if Israel recognises all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, in particular its right to return to its homeland and its right to establish its own state."

Peace also required withdrawal from all the occupied territories, he said.

Mr. Filali regretted that for the past 40 years the tragedy of the Middle East had made people believe that any coexistence between Jews and Arabs was impossible.

But an effort of imagination

should make it possible to transcend existing obstacles and lead to a return to the "original harmony which formerly enabled the children of Abraham to contribute together to the building of one of the most brilliant civilisations of the Mediterranean world."

He continued: "For this, Israel must come to its senses and realise that its own interests impel it to put an end to its intransigent attitude which undermines the path to peace."

Mr. Filali said a vision for the future was embodied in an Arab peace plan adopted in Fez, Morocco, in 1982. He regretted that this "realistic and constructive step" had so far been blocked by Israel.

The minister did not refer in his speech to a meeting at Ifran, Morocco, in July at which King Hassan of Morocco and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres

discussed the Fez plan.

Peres' message to Hassan

A Labour party legislator returned to Israel from Morocco on Thursday saying he had invited King Hassan II to join a preparatory committee to set up an international Middle East peace conference.

The invitation was delivered Wednesday at a 50-minute private meeting between Israeli legislator Rafi Edri and the Moroccan leader in Rabat, Mr. Edri told reporters.

"I proposed that the king should become a partner in a committee to prepare an international conference. Later, Morocco will also participate in an international conference that will help to start talks between Israel, Jordan, representatives of the

(Continued on page 2)

British journalist kicks his way out of kidnap

BEIRUT (AP) — British journalist David Hirst of the London Guardian said Friday he escaped from three kidnappers who drove him to a Shi'ite Muslim suburb of west Beirut.

Hirst told reporters he was picked up by the gunmen on the western edge of the suburb Mreijeh crossing on Beirut's dividing green line after his taxi had a flat tire at 6:45 a.m.

The assailants, one bearded and two clean shaven, pulled him out of the cab, shoved him into the rear seat of a German BMW car, blindfolded him and sped off, a gun pointed to his left temple, he said.

"I shouted and struggled. I tried to make as much noise as I could, especially when the car stopped or slowed down at traffic jams," said the silver-haired Hirst, 48, at the office of a Western news agency in west Beirut. "I tore off the blindfold."

He said the abductors finally stopped the car at a "concrete hovel house" in a southern suburb of Beirut and one gunman stepped out and walked towards the rear door.

"At this moment, I kicked and struggled and managed to detach myself and ran away," said the shaken Hirst, with small red scratches on his face.

The gunman who pointed his pistol to Hirst's head kept threatening to shoot him if he continued to scream and struggle, Hirst said.

"But when I ran away, they did not shoot. I found myself in an alleyway, where I grabbed a taxi and made it back to town," said Hirst, of Grange-over-Sands, Cumberland.

He said he believed the gunmen were "embarrassed" by the noise

he had created that brought out plenty of people to their balconies to see what was happening. But none of them dared to go to his rescue.

"A man did come along but like the story of the good Samaritan, he passed by on the other side. He pretended not to see me," Hirst said.

He had an escort of three armed Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militiamen in a white Mercedes on the trip from his seat on a flat in west Beirut's Ain Mreijeh district to the Mreijeh crossing to east Beirut, Hirst said.

"It was when they (escorts) were helping fix the flat tire that the armed elements came up, asked for my papers and, after an argument, they forced me into their car," Hirst said.

He said the gunmen claimed to be from the security department of Justice Minister Nabih Berri's mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia and claimed they wanted to "make investigation."

"They pretended to be Amal. They didn't appear to belong to any of the local militias. They were zoran (Arabic for thugs)," Hirst said. He speaks Arabic.

Hirst said he fell out from the kidnappers' car when he forced the door open. "But I stood up quickly and ran away."

Hirst, a bachelor who lived 25 years in Beirut, is the longest serving Western correspondent in the city, and one of three British reporters still based in the Lebanese capital.

Asked whether he would leave Lebanon after the attempted kidnapping, Hirst said: "I think I will stay on in Beirut. I haven't made up my mind yet... it was a very unpleasant experience."

IAEA talks end with accord on warnings

VIENNA (AP) — Senior energy officials from 83 nations agreed Friday on the wording of accords requiring nations to issue warnings and provide disaster relief in case of nuclear accidents.

The three-day session convened by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) ended with the United States, the Soviet Union and most of the other nations represented signing the two accords.

Boris Scherbina, the Soviet deputy prime minister, praised the accords and said he hoped the agency would discuss other measures in making nuclear power safer.

West Germany's environmental minister, Walter Wallmann, termed the accords a "first step" towards increased nuclear safety. He urged the 113-member agency to discuss forcing nations responsible for nuclear accidents to pay for the damage they cause.

The West German government has paid German farmers millions of marks to compensate for crop damage caused by fallout from the Soviet Union's Chernobyl nuclear accident.

The Kremlin came under sharp criticism following the April 26 disaster for failing to warn other countries quickly enough and refusing to acknowledge damage caused abroad.

More than 30 people were killed and hundreds injured after the Chernobyl plant spewed clouds of radioactivity. The fallout spread across Europe and eventually was registered around the world.



Arab leaders send good wishes to King

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has received a cable from King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia wishing His Majesty King Hussein a speedy recovery after his recent operation in the lower ear.

The Regent received a similar cable from Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince and First Deputy Premier Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz.

President Hafez Al Assad of Syria delegated the Syrian ambassador to the United Kingdom to pay a visit to the King and convey the president's wishes of good health and speedy recovery.

King Hussein also received cables wishing him well from Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, Saudi Arabia's second deputy prime minister, and from Prince Salman Ibn Abdul Aziz, governor of Riyadh.

King Hussein, who on Wednesday left hospital in London after the operation, is now recuperating at his residence in the British capital before returning to Amman in a few days time.

Labour leads Likud two to one in poll

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — If parliamentary elections were held in Israel now, the Labour alignment would win 46.1 per cent of the vote, while the Likud would get only 22.8 per cent, according to a public opinion poll published Friday.

The poll, taken for the independent Haaretz daily by the Public Opinion Research Institute, was made less than a month before Labour Prime Minister Shimon Peres is due to hand over to Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir under a power-sharing agreement that established the present government.

The poll shows that Labour popularity has risen by nine per cent since the 1981 election. It gained in the last elections just over two years ago. The Likud has declined by 9.1 per cent from the 31.9 per cent vote it gained then.

Smaller parties supporting Labour would add 6.6 per cent to its following in the 120-member parliament (up 1.1 per cent from the last election). Those supporting Likud would gain 5.6 per cent, up 3.4 per cent.

(Continued on page 2)

3 hurt in Johannesburg blast; gunmen free Ciskei prisoner

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — An explosion on Friday in a Johannesburg hotel wounded three people, and four whites armed with machine guns freed a former black homeland military leader jailed by his brother, the homeland government said.

A half-hour after the prison break, one of the sons of President Lennox Sebe, Major General Kwame Sebe, was abducted by a group of white men outside a casino.

Ciskei, on the southeastern coast of South Africa, has been considered a separate country by the South African government since independence ceremonies in 1981, but is not recognised by any other country.

Charles Sebe, a strong supporter of South Africa, was imprisoned by his brother in 1983 in a dispute over power.

Charles Sebe, the once-feared security chief of Ciskei who had detained scores of people without charges in solidifying his brother's control of the homeland government, was jailed when the president suspected him of planning a coup.

Iraqi defence minister predicts a major new offensive by Iran

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Iraqi Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah was quoted on Friday as predicting a major new offensive by Iran in the six-year-old Gulf war.

General Khairallah said in an interview with the New York Times in Baghdad that Iraq expected a preliminary deceptive attack before the main assault.

"If I were part of Iran's leadership, I would not see any alternative but to start a major offensive," he said. "Our calculations are they will exert efforts in more than one sector."

The general said his air force had obtained improved weaponry

this year. He said pilots were using long-range weapons rather than conventional bombs to avoid losing planes.

Iraq has recently concentrated on air strikes on economic targets like Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

The Iraqi defence minister said Iran was building a second pontoon bridge across the Shatt Al Arab waterway to support the bridgehead it had established on the Fao Peninsula.

The general declined to guess where Iran would launch its offensive but pointed out that at one point Iranian troops are deployed only 100 kilometres

from Baghdad. However they would have to cross treeless plains where they would be vulnerable to Iraqi armour.

Iraq's top war spokesman has said that Iran is preparing for a "grand act" in the war with Iraq, the national news agency IRNA reported.

It said Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, spokesman for Iran's supreme defence council, also advised Iraq's backers in the conflict to stop their support for Baghdad.

Mr. Rafsanjani was speaking after a meeting of the council

(Continued on page 2)

Moscow sees possibility of agreement with U.S. over medium-range missiles

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin sees "a promising direction" towards a superpower arms agreement on medium-range nuclear missiles, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

But the spokesman, Boris Pyadyshchev, declined to give details of efforts under way towards arms control and a new U.S.-Soviet summit. He criticised what he said are leaks by the American government on confidential weapons talks.

Pyadyshchev, speaking at a briefing in the Foreign Ministry press centre, declined to comment on negotiations in the case of American newsman Nicholas Daniloff, whose indictment on spying charges has become a central issue in efforts to schedule a new superpower summit.

U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze

met in New York on Thursday for the third time to discuss the Daniloff case, but no agreement was announced (See page 2).

Pyadyshchev quoted the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers as saying the case should be solved through "diplomatic channels," and reiterated earlier statements that a compromise was possible.

In talking about a new summit, Pyadyshchev referred to Mr. Shevardnadze's statement at the United Nations on Tuesday that the Soviet Union did not believe relations with the United States held no promise.

"Lately there have been some very promising outlines of future agreements in the making and we believe here, on Smolenskaya Square, where the Foreign Ministry is located, that problems concerning the next summit are resolvable," he said.

Soviet leader Mikhail S.

Gorbachev has said he wants a second meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan only when there has been an improvement in the political atmosphere between the superpowers, and progress towards arms control.

"On some questions we do now see more specific outlines that would allow further progress," Pyadyshchev said.

Intermediate-range nuclear missiles, for one, show a promising direction. Here we can see certain possibilities of reaching an agreement."

However, a senior American diplomat who briefed reporters on condition he not be further identified, was less optimistic about the recent progress.

Shultz's second visit, as good precedent, page 4

Syria seen as aiding Paris' efforts against guerrillas

PARIS (R) — Syria appeared on Friday to be moving in as mediator in France's efforts to end the threat from Middle Eastern guerrillas whose bombs have killed nine people in Paris this month.

Syrian embassy officials confirmed that Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara's met Greek Catholic Archbishop Hilarion Capucci here on Thursday during a stopover on his way to New York.

On Monday, Archbishop Capucci met France's public security minister, Robert Pandraud, and suspected guerrilla leader Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, held in La Santé prison in central Paris.

The government, while confirming Archbishop Capucci's meetings, has denied asking him to mediate and has rejected suggestions that it has been trying to negotiate a truce in the bombings.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has ruled out negotiations with the guerrilla groups who have threatened to continue their bombing campaign unless Abdallah, serving a four-year

sentence for arms possession, is freed.

This statement has been greeted with universal scepticism by the French press, which says the official insistence on government-to-government talks does not rule out indirect bargaining through intermediaries.

The Capucci-Shara meeting tended to confirm suggestions that the archbishop had been asked to come to Paris by the Syrian authorities.

It followed a surprise meeting in Damascus on Tuesday between French Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac, a close associate of Mr. Chirac, and Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam.

Since the flurry of contacts began between Paris and Damascus the Chirac government appears to have retreated from earlier statements implying that Syria might be involved in the bombings.

Syria has protested publicly about French press reports saying investigators believe the bombers may have been sponsored by Damascus.

Reagan poised to veto Congress bill on sanctions

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan was expected on Friday to veto a sanctions bill against South Africa, risking a major foreign policy defeat by a Congress seemingly poised to override his verdict.

Congress decided that only sanctions could force Pretoria to halt apartheid racial segregation. Mr. Reagan argues that sanctions will not stop apartheid and can only hurt South African black workers.

The White House said Mr. Reagan was to veto the bill on Friday and announce measures of his own against South Africa. He was clearly hoping to sway the 20 Senate votes needed to keep Congress from enacting its tougher sanctions into law.

Congressional aides said Mr. Reagan might nominate America's first black ambassador to Pretoria, seek \$500 million in U.S. aid to South Africa's neighbouring countries and impose some of the non-economic sanctions in Congress's bill.

Overriding a presidential veto requires a two-thirds vote by both chambers of Congress. Senate Republican leader Robert Dole said on Thursday the Senate as well as the House of Representatives might still muster the required two-thirds.

"It's going to be hard to sustain a veto," Mr. Dole said.

A house aide put it most bluntly: "Some of them (Mr. Reagan) can buy off but I don't think he could buy off 20."

Mr. Reagan needed 20 more Senate votes because it takes 34, just over one third of the 100 senators, to sustain his veto. Only 14 supported him when the Senate approved the sanctions.

The Democrat-controlled house was virtually certain to override Mr. Reagan's veto but he would still win if the Republican-led Senate supported him.

Congress's sanctions would ban the import of textiles, coal, steel, iron, uranium and agricultural products from South Africa.

North Yemen shows military muscle on National Day

SANAA (R) — North Yemen staged a show of military strength Friday to climax celebrations marking the 24th anniversary of the overthrow of the monarchy.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh, flanked by Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz and Palestinian Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat, took the salute at a military parade.

The four-hour display included weapons from East and West. Three U.S.-built F-5 and six Soviet-made MiG-21 jets joined a flypast and about 100 French and Soviet-made tanks roared through "70 Square," named for a 70-day siege of the capital by pro-Monarchist forces during the 1962-69 civil war.

Military delegations from the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as Arab countries, watched the parade.

Washington has been trying to boost arms sales to North Yemen since the January ouster in neighbouring South Yemen of President Ali Nasser Mohammad, which brought a more radical Marxist faction to power in Aden.

In a speech in the square, North Yemeni Chief of Staff Abdullah Al Beshir pledged to build up the armed forces with a continued policy of diversifying weapons sources.

Military cadets and thousands of other youths also took part in the parade, together about 100.

Palestinian fighters based in North Yemen since they were evacuated from Beirut in 1983.

National Day was also marked by a pledge from Mr. Saleh to work for unity with South Yemen.

"The unity of the two Yemens has become a main concern of our people... long strides have already been made in this direction," he said in a speech to the nation Thursday night.

The two countries began seeking a merger in 1982 but talks faltered after factional fighting in Aden in January which led to the ouster of President Ali Nasser Mohammad.

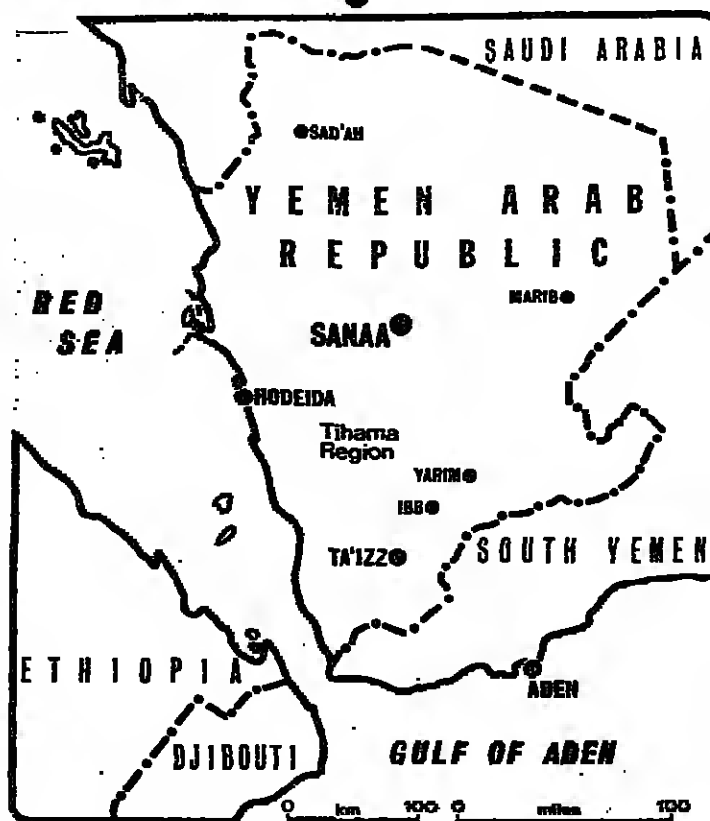
The speech coincided with what appeared to be a thaw in relations between the two south Arabian states.

Last week Mr. Saleh consulted on what the official media called "regional issues" with President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas. It was their first contact since inconclusive Libyan-sponsored talks in July.

Two senior South Yemeni ministers also attended the celebrations.

Political commentators said Mr. Saleh's new pledge on unity might have been prompted by Saudi Arabia, Sanaa's main aid donor.

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah is



the first senior official from Riyadh to visit North Yemen in two years.

Mr. Saleh, in his speech, also pledged to continue to improve ties with other Arab neighbours.

North Yemen is suffering from a shortage of foreign currency, due to a drop in remittances from

Yemenis working in Gulf states.

Mr. Saleh, in an apparent bid to revive economic optimism, said drilling from offshore wells would start soon, together with work on an export pipeline linking oilfields in the north east with export terminals on the Red Sea.

The pipeline, with a capacity of between 150,000 to 400,000 barrels per day, will cost \$300 million, he said.

Turning to Arab politics, Mr. Saleh reaffirmed his support for the Palestinians and called for healing of inter-Arab rifts.

He appealed Iran and Iraq to bring to an immediate end to their six-year-old war.

Heikal back in print in Al Ahram

CAIRO (R) — Muhammad Hassan Heikal, Egypt's most influential journalist under the late President Gamal Abdul Nasser, appeared in print Friday for the first time in 12 years in his former newspaper Al Ahram.

The semi-official daily ran an introduction to a planned serialisation of Heikal's new book, "Cutting the Lion's Tail — Suez Through Egyptian Eyes," an account of the Suez crisis 30 years ago.

Heikal, 63, wielded considerable political power as editor of Al Ahram from 1957 to 1974, when he was dismissed by then President Anwar Sadat.

His column, "Frankly Speaking," which appeared weekly in Al Ahram before his dismissal, was known to reflect Col. Nasser's thinking and was eagerly awaited by readers.

Cutting the Lion's Tail deals with the nationalisation of the Suez Canal by Col. Nasser in 1956 and the subsequent invasion of Egypt by Britain and France, in collusion with Israel.

In Friday's article, Heikal said documents used in the book included papers given him by Col. Nasser during the crisis.

Since his removal as editor, Heikal has written articles for newspapers in Gulf Arab countries. Some of his books have been best-sellers in the West, but he said the new book was the first published in Egypt since 1974.

He returned to Egypt's news-stands last February with a column criticising President Hosni Mubarak's policies in Al Ahram's rival, the weekly Al-Ahram.

The column, billed as a regular feature, was later discontinued without explanation.

Shamir confers with Hungarian counterpart

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir had talks with his Hungarian counterpart, Peter Varkonyi, as part of Israel's drive to restore relations broken by most East European countries in 1967.

He told reporters the purpose of his talks with Mr. Varkonyi, whom he also met during last year's U.N. General Assembly session, was to "find a formula for our bilateral relations," which were developing in the cultural, trade and tourist fields.

"We have decided to explore in our capitals the possibilities for finding some formula for our relations," he added Thursday. Shamir said he had a meeting Wednesday with the Bulgarian foreign minister and Friday was due to see the Polish foreign minister.

Israeli family seeks sign that captured son is alive

RAANANA, Israel (R) — The family of a captured Israeli soldier, appealed Friday to Muslim radicals in Lebanon for a sign he is alive after Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Israel received no demands during his seven months of captivity.

Rabin told the families of Yossi Fink and Levy Alsheikh Thursday that efforts to contact members of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah through the United Nations and International Red Cross were unsuccessful.

"We would appreciate knowing first and foremost what the boys are doing, about their health, and what is wanted for their release," said Merton Fink, the father of private Fink, who moved his family from Manchester, England, in 1969.

Iran executes three bombers in Qom

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Three men accused of carrying out two bombings in Iran's holy city of Qom and Tehran last month were executed in public in Qom Friday as a crowd chanted "death to America." Iran's official news agency reported.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, identified the men as Soleiman Nouri, Mohammad, Vaisi and Ismail Nouri.

The agency did not say if Soleiman and Ismail were related or whether the men were executed by a firing squad or in some other manner.

IRNA said a crowd that witnessed the executions also cried "Allah akbar," or "God is great," and "Death to the Monafeqin."

Monafeqin, or "hypocrites," is a term used by the Iranian regime to refer to the outlawed Mujahedeen Khalq, or people's

warriors, guerrilla organisation. IRNA said the spectators should demand authorities should "severely counter plots of anti-revolutionaries."

IRNA did not specify whether the executions were carried out at the site of the bombing in Qom as had been demanded by relatives of the victims.

Thirteen people were killed and more than 100 wounded when a car bomb exploded outside a mosque in Qom on Aug. 16.

Three days later, another car bomb in Ferdowsi Square in Tehran, 160 kilometres north, killed 20 people.

Iranian authorities blamed the bombings on the Mujahedeen. But the dissident group which split with Iran's Islamic regime after the 1979 revolution has repeatedly denied such accusations.

It claimed the charges were aimed at "paving the way for the

execution of yet more political prisoners."

A Mujahedeen statement following the Qom blast said 50,000 people have been executed in Iran since Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's revolution toppled the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

The organisation reported another 140,000 people are held as political prisoners.

Iranian officials had demanded that those wounded in the Qom blast should be able to demand "eye for an eye" punishment against the bombers under judicial supervision.

Iran's supreme court Tuesday ruled against "qessass," or punishment in kind in which victims who lost legs or eyes could claim similar limbs and organs from the bombers before they were executed.

But the court upheld the death sentences on the three.

Iraqi defence minister predicts new attack

(Continued from page 1)

Thursday night. He did not elaborate on the "grand act."

Thursday's defence council meeting came hours after Iraqi planes raided industrial areas in two central Iranian cities after a 10-day lull in such attacks.

Iran said 34 people were hurt and some damage was caused to

plants and workers' quarters near Isfahan, 340 kilometres south of Tehran and Arak, 240 kilometres southwest of the capital.

Iraqi warplanes attacked a military chemicals factory in Isfahan, devastating its installations and equipment and leaving it with explosions sounding," said a war

communiqué issued by the Iraqi

military command.

Isfahan is Iran's second-most populous city and is 450 kilometres east of the Iraqi border. Iraqi warplanes bombed the refinery of Isfahan last month.

Other formations of Iraqi jets blasted the plants that manufacture heavy-duty tractors and heavy machinery in Arak.

At the United Nations, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz

asked the General Assembly on Thursday to help bring peace in the Iran-Iraq war.

"We look forward to see the United Nations shoulder its responsibility for the maintenance of peace through the position it takes on what has become now the longest war of the century," Mr. Aziz said in an address to the world body.

Mr. Aziz repeated Iraq's offer to sign a peace and non-aggression treaty with both armies returning to the pre-war frontier and full exchange of some 85,000 prisoners of war.

'Israel must come to senses'

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians and I hope, other Arab countries as well," Mr. Edri said.

"I am certain that the king's participation and his wisdom can make an important contribution to the talks," he remarked.

Mr. Edri said he delivered to King Hassan a written and an oral message from Mr. Peres.

Israel Radio reported Thursday that Mr. Peres' letter included his assessment of the chances that Jordan will join a proposed Middle East confederation.

It was not immediately clear whether the invitation was made on behalf of Mr. Peres, who agreed to an idea of an international conference in a meeting with President Hosni

Mubarak of Egypt earlier this month.

Mr. Peres discussed the Middle East situation with King Hassan in July in the first official meeting ever held between the leaders of the two countries.

Mr. Edri accompanied Mr. Peres to the summit and was reportedly instrumental in arranging it.

Speaking Thursday night on Israel Television, Mr. Edri said that King Hassan "was determined to contribute to the Middle East peace process, especially in view of the ideas raised during our meeting."

"The idea of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation was raised as well, and it was not rejected," Mr. Edri added.

Labour leads Likud in poll

(Continued from page 1)

"national unity" government together.

Mr. Peres said on Thursday Labour would not permit the establishment of new Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

In a speech carried on Israel Radio, Mr. Peres said Israeli spending should be aimed at "further developing existing agriculture."

"We can not cut the defence budget, the education and health budget... in order to convert a theoretical political plan into a fact," he said in a speech to Israeli farmers.

Mr. Peres' remarks were apparently in response to a statement last week by Mr.

Shamir, Mr. Shamir said he would step up the pace of settlement building after he swaps jobs with Mr. Peres on Oct. 14.

Mr. Shamir said in the statement he would act "within the framework of the economic limitations and the coalition agreement."

The coalition agreement limited to 27 the number of new settlements to be built during the government's four-year term. But due to sharp budget cuts, Mr. Peres imposed a slowdown and so far only two new settlements have been built.

Mr. Peres' Labour Party opposed Jewish settlement of heavily-populated parts of the occupied West Bank, where some 800,000 Palestinians live. But Likud maintains the entire region should be settled by Jews.

Jordan to exhibit industrial goods

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government has decided to set up an exhibition of Jordanian national products in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, during November. The exhibition will be organised by the Trade Centres Corporation, the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Amman Chamber of Industry.

A committee is to be set up to prepare for the exhibition which will be mounted in implementation of a Jordanian-Saudi Arabian trade protocol.

The announcement also said that Jordan will take part in the Baghdad International Fair, due to be held between Nov. 1 and Nov. 15. The Ministry of Industry and Trade has already started receiving samples of Jordanian products from businesses and industries wishing to participate in the fair.

TUNISIAN PRODUCTS EXHIBITION

The largest display of Tunisian products and industries held in Jordan
From Sept. 28 to Oct. 5, 1986

at the premises of the Amman Development Corporation - Al Hayek Ascent - First Circle - Jabal Amman

TUNISIA, THE GREEN, proudly presents to you...

Its various products of foodstuffs, cloth, clothes, households, kitchens, electrical and mechanical equipment, shoes, leatherwares, perfumes and cosmetics.

SELLING DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC

Welcome to the Tunisian products exhibition
Exhibition hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

For further information, call 674307/8.
N.B. Car parks available in the building

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
17:00 Koran
17:30 Cartoons
17:45 Scientific programme for children
18:10 Kids of Degrassi Street
18:35 Animals in Action
19:00 Local Agricultural programme
19:35 Programme review
19:45 Iraq Newsletter
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:00 Local programme
21:30 Tomorrow's programme
22:00 Arabic play
22:30 Arabic News Summary
23:10 Play continued

PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 Toilet aux lettres
18:30 La valise des jeunesses
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en France
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Science World
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Check It Out
21:10 The Lancaster Miller Affair
22:00 News in English
22:30 Jordan Weekly
23:30 Feature film: The Ladies

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
Tel: 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
08:45 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Continued
10:00 Oriental Songs
11:00 Your Health
11:30 Men from the Ministry
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
12:45 Pop Session contd.
13:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Concert Hour
14:45 News Summary
15:00 Top Twenty
15:30 News Desk
15:45 Date with a Star
16:00 Songs from Movies
16:30 Yes Minister
21:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS
An exhibition of paintings by German Artist Chalk Conlonberg at the Petra Bank Gallery — Wadi Saqra (until Sept. 30)
An art exhibition by Mrs. Rashid at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Oct. 1)

FRENCH FILM WEEK
A French film week at 8:00 p.m. daily at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Sept. 30).
Tonight: "L'été prochain" drama.

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre — Tel. 6610267
American Centre — 644371
British Council — 6361478
French Cultural Centre — 637009
Soviet Cultural Centre — 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre — 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre — 637777
Uganda Arts Centre — 665195
Hussein Youth City — 6671816
Y.W.C.A. — 647793
Amman Municipal Library — 637111
University of Jordan Library — 843335

MUSEUMS
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Cliffed Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jesuit National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabel Luwadih. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Martyr's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia

dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 662400.

SERVICE CLUBS
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman. Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luwadih. Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein. Tel. 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi. Tel. 623541.
Assiout Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman. Tel. 678906.
Assiout Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman. Tel. 713331.

Assiout Orthodox Church Assiout. Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Assiout. Tel. 771751.
Assiout International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyya. Tel. 811295.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Sait). Tel. 811295.
Baptist Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman. Tel. 606974.

PRAYER TIMES
05:04 Fajr
06:27 Sunrise
12:28 Dhuhr
15:34 Asr
18:27 Maghrib
19:58 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
06:25 Belgrade (JU)
06:30 Sana'a (RU)
07:00 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RU)
07:15 London, Larnaca (BA)
09:15 Athens (AF)
09:45 Karachi, Dubai (RU)
10:00 Cairo (RU)
10:25 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RU)
11:00 Doha, Kuwait (RU)
11:30 Riyadh (RU)
12:00 Paris, Damascus (AF)
13:00 Beirut (ME)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
14:50 New York, Vienna (RU)
15:00 Baghdad (IA)
15:45 Moscow (RU)
15:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RU)
16:05 Beirut (ME)
16:20 Sana'a (RU)
16:30 Damascus (AF)
16:35 Istanbul (RU)
16:45 Rome, Damascus (AF)
16:55 Frankfurt, Damascus (AF)
17:00 Baghdad (IA)

DEPARTURES
06:15 Belgrade (JU)
06:20 Frankfurt (IA)
06:30 Athens (AF)
07:00 Damascus (AF)
09:00 Moscow (RU)
09:10 Larnaca, London (BA)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RU)
12:05 Geneva, Madrid (RU)
12:30 Vienna, New York (RU)
13:00 London (RU)
13:00 Paris, Brussels (RU)
13:15 Geneva, Frankfurt (RU)
13:45 Rome, Madrid (RU)
13:45 Istanbul (RU)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:50 Cairo (MS)
15:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RU)
15:20 Doha (RU)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
15:40 Sana'a (RU)
16:00 Beirut (RU)
16:10 Baghdad (IA)
16:30 Damascus (AF)
16:35 Istanbul (RU)
16:45 Rome, Damascus (AF)
16:55 Frankfurt, Damascus (AF)
17:00 Baghdad (IA)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Fast Eagle
— Alia
Amin Kavar and Sons Company, with its new offices in Shamsiyya, at your service. Tel. 657703/15.

MONEY EXCHANGE
Thursday rates
Local teller rates in Jds
Belgian franc 80.5/ 81.5
Dutch guilder 147.6/ 149.6
French franc 50.9/ 51.6
Italian lira 24.1/ 24.4
Japanese yen (for 100) 221/ 223.8
Swedish crown 49.3/ 49.8
Swiss franc 205.7/ 208.8
U.K. sterling pound 494.7/ 500.4
U.S. dollar 342.5/ 345.6
W. German mark 166.7/ 169

WEATHER
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be normal summer. Clouds will appear at different altitudes with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Amman 20/30
Aqaba 25/36
Deraa 20/35
Jordan Valley 24/36

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 31, Aqaba 37. Humidity readings: Amman 39 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES
Amman governorate 891228
Amman civil defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Unit 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Control 770733
Civil Defence Dear Alla 5709
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Fire headquarters 778303
Civil Defence rescue 622090/3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Palestine, Shamsiyya 896390/1
Electric power Co. 636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53300/60

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Farooq Nour 638189
Dr. Salama Dabbou 812568
Firas pharmacy 664912
Al Sahab pharmacy 636730
Al Sahab pharmacy 668058
Khafiz pharmacy 778653

TAXIS:
Karak taxi 668761
Chester taxi 630537
Amman taxi 664660
Al Jabel taxi 842623
Al Jabel taxi 643620
Nabati taxi 663003

HOSPITALS
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khafiz Pharmacy, J. Amn. 644281/6
Alia Maternity, J. Amn. 64241/2
Jabel Amman Maternity 642362
Madina, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsiyya 664171/4
Shamsiyya Hospital 660131
University Hospital 845845/65
Al-Muhammadiyah Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abadi 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abadi 77101/3
Italian, Al-Muhammadiyah 775111/2
Al-Bashir, J. Amman 775111/2
Amn, Madina 891011/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

GENERAL
Jordan Television 773111/9
Radio Jordan 774111/9
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 664412
Police Information 661178
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 11
Overseas calls 11
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple (golden) 300/250
Apple (red) 440/400
Apple (green) 440/400
Apple (American & African) 400/350
Banana 300/260
Banana (Malaysian) 250/220
Beans 300/250
Cabbage 130/100



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai is greeted by senior officials from Irbid during a visit to the governorate on Thursday (Petra photo)

Dakhqan inspects agricultural projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhqan on Thursday inaugurated the first of a number of agricultural projects in the south-eastern parts of the Kingdom. The wells are being drilled to help in the process of irrigating land leased to five local companies which have undertaken to cultivate agricultural crops and to raise livestock.

The first well at Mudawara is to benefit the Arab International Company operating in the region. The inauguration took place during Mr. Dakhqan's inspection tour of the region around Ma'an where he met officials, farmers and stock breeders to discuss agricultural affairs.

So far the government has leased 100,000 dunums of land to Jordanian companies for nominal fees to encourage them to grow cereals and fodder and to raise

cattle and sheep.

The minister inspected a number of agricultural projects at Tal Burma, Mohammadiyah, Huseinih, and Arja. He also heard requests from local farmers and discussed plans to provide water for these projects and as well as equipment needed to help the development of land. The minister promised that his officials will give due consideration to these requests and try to meet them as soon as possible.

The minister's tour took him to 'Oshadih and Qasemiyeh where two model orchards are being cultivated for producing apples. Mr. Dakhqan, accompanied by local officials, talked to farmers and owners of land which is being grown with apple trees around Shohak in southern Jordan. During the visit, the minister was briefed on production and

farmers' needs. He said that the government is concerned over the development of land for producing apples and will extend material and practical support to land owners.

At the Ma'an governor's house, the minister chaired a meeting attended by directors of government departments, and local farmers to discuss the general agricultural situation in the governorate and providing saplings of olive and apple trees free of charge to farmers and fruit growers in the region. The minister discussed the water situation in Ma'an and the prospect of exploiting the Ghadir Al Shamieh, Sweilem and Dawawi springs.

Later, the minister called at Al Jafr agricultural project, one of the first projects for settling bedouin tribes in the region.

Rifai, cabinet on inspection visit to Irbid

Prime minister, local officials review development plan for northern governorate

IRBID (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai announced on Thursday that the 1986-1990 national development schemes for Jordan's East and West Banks will be implemented in November, after the conclusion of an international meeting to discuss both plans and means of financing them.

"All articles included in the East and West Banks development projects will be executed as of November and after the proposed conference ends its session in Amman, Mr. Rifai told a large number of officials and citizens from Irbid during his inspection tour of the governorate.

The proposed conference, to open during the first week of November, will explain Jordan's projected JD 3.15 billion plan outline development schemes for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The conference is to be attended by potential Arab and international donors and organisations interested in development. Jordan hopes to obtain the majority of funds for both plans from the U.S., the European Community, Japan and Arab as well as international Arab and Muslim funds.

The development plans, the prime minister said, were actual realisations of both the government's and citizens' aspirations to achieve comprehensive development in the country's socio-economic, transport, agriculture and education sectors... all of which are vital for the country and the citizens' needs.

Mr. Rifai, who was accompanied by a number of his cabinet members and directors of public departments, expressed his deep appreciation for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent's keen interest in supervising the drafts and preparing both plans in cooperation with the concerned parties.

Irbid Governorate's needs have been incorporated in the development plan, Mr. Rifai said, pledging that the government will not introduce any amendments to the regional development scheme for the governorate without consulting local officials.

Mr. Rifai reassured the citizens of the government's keen interest in solving all problems affecting people's lives through actual contact and government-citizen dialogue, a policy which he said is in line with His Majesty King Hussein's directives to provide good service and care for Jordanians and Jordan.

"We shall continue holding government-people meetings since such interaction is vital for both of us in touching on the country's problems and trying to strike solutions in accordance with priorities and available funds," said Mr. Rifai.

In response to a number of requests put forward by speakers who delivered speeches on behalf of Irbid Governorate's people, the municipality, women's associations, the trade federation and agricultural organisations, Mr. Rifai reiterated the government's support and goals to serve the citizens. "We care to address your needs within the possible limits... we welcome dialogue and exchanges of points of view between officials and the people in order to reach a joint conviction on all issues and to serve the country and its citizens," said Mr. Rifai.

Replying to an issue raised by the Irbid Women's Federation, the prime minister said that unemployment in the Kingdom will not be solved at the expense of Jordanian women.

"The issue is not relevant... the most concrete evidence that the government has no bias against its female citizens — on the levels of education and employment — lies in the fact that 35,000 women work in the public sector and 65 per cent of total students accepted for the scholastic year at school and university level were females. "Fifty-six per cent of the total employees at the Ministry of Education are women out of whom a total of 67 per cent are married women," said the prime minister.

Municipal finances

Answering a question about municipalities, Mr. Rifai said that these local administrative bodies were facing various financial problems which resulted from the high interest rates each municipality and municipal council had to pay on loans they had demanded.

The government, he said, is in the process of reaching a grass-roots solution in municipalities' complaints over high interest rates through increasing their income and upgrading the quality of services offered to the citizens.

On the situation of the governorate's network of major and minor roads, Mr. Rifai said that this year, all the major roads in the governorate were maintained. He explained that bids for resurfacing the Amman-Jerash-Irbid highway will be tendered at the end of this year and said he expected that work on the highway will commence by the beginning of 1987.

Schools

Asked whether the government had plans to increase the number of schools in the governorate, Mr. Rifai said that the cabinet was studying a way to achieve this goal through the joint participation of both the Ministry of Education and local municipalities. At present, municipalities are responsible for constructing all educational premises while the government provides the teachers and text books.

In response to a demand made by the director of the governorate's health department, Mr. Rifai said that the cabinet is presently considering the possibilities of setting up a new hospital to serve the governorate. The proposed hospital, he added, will also address the educational needs of medical students at the University of Science and Technology. "We hope to issue an order in the coming few days on where to locate the hospital and it is expected to be hosted within the university's premises," said Mr. Rifai.

He added that the Jordanian Armed Forces was also in the process of establishing a medical centre in the governorate to serve the servicemen. He explained that the Armed Forces' was considering "expanding the Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid as well as upgrading the institutions' present services."

Mr. Rifai said that the cabinet had decided to set up a school for male students at the Azmi Al Mufti martyrs camp and that work on asphaltting the camp's roads will start next spring as soon as the camp's water and sewerage networks have been completed.

Mr. Rifai added that steps were being taken to extend opening hours at the camp's health centre.

On the subject of agriculture in the governorate, Mr. Rifai expressed hope that in the coming year, farmers throughout the country would adhere to the set agricultural cropping patterns to develop the agricultural sector.

In response to issues raised by the governorate's trade sector, Mr. Rifai expressed hope that in the near future, the Ramtha border post would be authorised to clear all the governorate's imports. He said that a tender to set up the Irbid industrial city will be awarded soon and that actual construction at the site is scheduled to start by the end of 1986.

Tourism

On the subject of developing the region's tourism potentials and historical as well as touristic sites, the prime minister said that the 1986-1990 development scheme included a number of touristic projects. He also expressed hope that the private sector would carry out its role in investing in tourism projects.

In response to a request made by one of Irbid's Lower House of Parliament deputies, Mr. Rifai said that an Islamic centre will be set up at the University of Science and Technology as part of the campus.

A number of ministers took part in the discussions on the governorate's needs.

The ministers of education, higher education, parliamentary affairs, interior, labour and social development, prime ministry affairs, municipal and rural affairs and the environment, trade, industry and supply, agriculture, and health as well as the directors general of the Water Authority of

Jordan, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation and the Jordan Agricultural Credit Organisation joined in the discussion.

At the outset of the prime minister's first official visit to Irbid Governorate since he assumed premiership in April 1984, Mr. Rifai and the accompanying cabinet members and officials made a visit to the country's newly opened University of Science and Technology. The university opened for the 1986-1987 scholastic year one week ago after parliament endorsed a special law governing it in July.

After the cabinet's meeting with governorate officials and citizens, Mr. Rifai and the ministers made visits to the governorate's municipality, the chamber of trade, the Princess Basma Hospital, and Irbid's water department. Mr. Rifai also inaugurated the Al Zahra park for children, situated in Irbid's eastern suburbs.

The park is erected on an area of 14 dunums and includes a library, and model structures to teach children the basics of traffic laws and regulations.

Prior to his tour, the prime minister met with the governorate officials and representatives of the socio-economic and trade sectors. The public and private officials, who made speeches included Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Amin, one of the governorate's five Lower House of Parliament deputies Mr. Rizk Al Bataineh, Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Al Theishat, President of the Irbid Women's Federation Eideh El Mitleq, President of the Jordan Valley Farmers Association Adel Al Shamallah, representative of the Palestinian refugees Dr. Matar Awad, Irbid Health Department Director General Mu'in Al Ghoul, President of Irbid's Chamber of Trade Sa'adi Al Halabouni and President of the Ramtha Sports Club Abdul Halim Samarab.

Mr. Amin briefed the government on the governorate's 1986-1990 development scheme in which total investment is expected to reach JD 490,207,000. He said that the governorate's private sector is expected to shoulder 37.8 per cent of the total estimated cost.

The investments in the socio-economic sectors will be divided as follows: Social welfare and services (JD 238,481,000 of which the private sector will shoulder 23 per cent), infrastructure (JD 132,050,000 of which the private sectors' investment will cover 3.3 per cent of the total) and the production sector (JD 113,671,000 of which the private sector will participate in 10.4 per cent of the total investment cost).

He added that the region's plan will give due attention to agriculture, youth, industry and tourism sectors and described the scheme as a means to increase development, construction and social development in the governorate and in stem urban migration by creating new employment opportunities. Mr.

Amin presented the prime minister with the following list of the governorate's requests and needs.

— Not to introduce any amendments to the region's 1986-1990 development scheme without consulting the Irbid council for development.

— To provide the governorate with a technical team comprising planners and supervisors in order to act as liaison officers with the governorate's council for development on one hand and with the concerned authorities on the other hand.

— To help local municipalities and municipal councils overcome their financial problems which impede them from giving a good quality of services to citizens.

— To include the King Abdullah Hospital in the region's development plan since funds for the hospital's establishment have been secured from a Belgian grant.

Mr. Bataineh, on behalf of the governorate's constituents, urged the government to implement the five-year development plan for the region in a more dynamic manner. "A year of the plan has already passed. We hope that movement in implementing the plan will be more dynamic and serious," he said.

Mr. Bataineh said that the governorate's citizens were well aware of the difficult economic situation the country is passing through, but added that it "is our right to ask the cabinet, within specific limitations, for assistance to help us implement the development scheme, which addresses the basic and minimal needs and aspirations of the governorate's citizens."

On the basic priorities which can not be delayed or postponed, Mr. Bataineh said that it is the right of each citizen to enjoy water and electricity as well as primary health care.

He said that the governorate's citizens urged the government to modernise agricultural production methods, to open agricultural roads, and to offer government guidance to farmers in order to increase production. He said the citizens call on the government to work on opening and expanding the two major highways which link Amman with Irbid and North Shuneh with Irbid.

Dr. Theishat, who received the prime minister and the accompanying delegation at Irbid Municipality, briefed the guests on the municipality's developments. On the municipality's administrative aspects, Dr. Theishat said that a new, improved organisational structure has been implemented at the municipality and that official departments dealing with people's needs have been given more administrative rights in order to alleviate bureaucratic procedures.

He said that his municipality made a pioneering step when it managed to implement the 1968 law on dividing land inside municipal boundaries.

Dr. Theishat also briefed the cabinet on the municipality's

efforts to asphalt and extend roads, to develop the city's health services and to build public and children's parks.

Dr. Theishat also presented the government with a request to offer the municipality financial support to help it carry out its planned projects and to cover parts of its outstanding debts. He also asked for assistance to construct a new headquarters for the Irbid Municipality and for the expansion of the highway linking Irbid with the Jordan Valley.

Speaking on behalf of Irbid's women, Dr. Mitleq cautioned against any government bias against female students at universities, against women in general and married women in particular in areas related to job employment saying that such acts contradict with the citizen's rights.

She contended that any favouritism towards males will hinder the country's socio-economic process and will give Jordan a negative image in the international arena.

Dr. Mitleq urged the government to re-examine its policies on higher education and on employment and called for a specific and clear budget in help women carry out its development schemes as included in the national five-year development plan.

Dr. Mitleq was apparently referring to the omission of a budget to develop the women's sector as part of the Kingdom's five year development scheme. All schemes related to women are to be provided by government allocations and not through a fixed budget.

Also addressing the gathering was Adel Shamallah, president of the Jordan Valley Farmers Association (JVFA).

Mr. Shamallah stressed the need to promote the agricultural policy in the Kingdom and said that the cropping pattern system should be re-examined in order to secure optimum results from the agricultural sector.

Mr. Shamallah attributed the failure of implementing the cropping patterns to "miscalculation and inaccuracy" which resulted in a price drop and market glut even surpassing those of previous years when the pattern had not been introduced. He stressed the need for broader cooperation among the concerned parties and scientific and research centres to draw up a sound agricultural policy based on data and scientific studies.

Mr. Shamallah expressed hope that new market outlets would be explained to absorb surplus agricultural produce and he stressed the need for a reduction in prices of agricultural inputs in order to enable Jordanian farmers in compete for export outlets.

In his address, Mr. Samarab spoke of the sports activities and installations in the governorate and promoting sports throughout the Kingdom. Mr. Samarab urged the government to further support sports clubs in Irbid as, he said, they lack financial support and relevant facilities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

W. Bank deputies discuss 5-year plan

AMMAN (Petra) — Parliament members representing constituencies in the occupied West Bank held a meeting at the parliament building in Amman on Thursday under the chairmanship of acting speaker of the Lower House Ismail Hijazi. They discussed topics of concern to citizens in the occupied West Bank and also reviewed a Jordanian five-year development plan for the Israeli-held territory. Also discussed was support from Jordan to enhance the Arab population's steadfastness and means to confront Israel's plans for Judaizing Arab territory.

Police chiefs endorse Jordan's paper

TUNIS (Petra) — A conference of Arab police chiefs has endorsed a Jordanian working paper dealing with the comprehensive concept of security. The conference recommended that proposals, which include provisions for protecting youth and means of stemming crimes, be distributed to all police departments in the Arab World. Public Security Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali is representing Jordan at the conference.

Nine injured in bus, truck crash

AMMAN (Petra) — Nine people were injured in a road accident which involved two large vehicles on the Desert Highway, linking Amman and Aqaba. The accident, involving a Kuwaiti fuel truck and a Jordanian bus, occurred five kilometres south of Jizfeh, not far from the Queen Alia International Airport. Civil defence teams were called to help take the injured people to Al Bashir Hospital in Amman for treatment. Dr. Khaled Daoud, head of the emergency department at Al Bashir Hospital, said those admitted for treatment suffered from different degrees of injuries and they were being provided with immediate medical treatment.

Ministry issues U.N. anniversary stamps

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications has issued a set of postage stamps to commemorate His Majesty King Hussein's address to the United Nations General Assembly on its 40th anniversary. The ministry's under secretary, Mr. Mansour Ibn Tarif, said that the first anniversary of the speech falls today and in view of its importance and the positive worldwide reactions it drew with regard to Arab issues, the ministry has decided to issue the new set of stamps. The new issue of 40, 80, 100 and 200 fils denominations will be available at all post offices around the country.

JESORS sends students to Taiwan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen (JESORS) is dispatching 15 Jordanian students to Taiwan on Sunday to acquire vocational training. The students, who have all completed their secondary education in Jordan this year, are sons of military personnel killed in action. The cost of training at Taiwan's training institutes will be covered by JESORS.

APU secretary calls for meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) has called for holding an urgent meeting of Arab parliamentary units to work out a unified stand on all Arab issues to convey to the 76th conference of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) due to be held in Argentina in October. Proposed subjects of discussion at the APU meeting will be the Palestine question, the Iran-Iraq war and the Syrian parliament's request to make the Mediterranean area a region of peace.

Jordan takes part in Swedish scout camp

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has taken part in an international camp for scouts and girl guides, concluded recently in Sweden. The four-day event aimed at exchanging experiences and training at the international level in the fields of scout skills, self-reliance and team work. The 28-member Jordanian team presented national folklore performances and held an exhibition of Jordanian products and photos of historical and tourist places in Jordan. Taking part in the camp 5,600 scouts and girl guides from 40 countries.

Jordan to mark Arab Children's Day Oct. 1

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will celebrate Arab Children's Day on Oct. 1 with week-long activities prepared jointly by a special committee in charge of organizing the celebrations and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

The first day of activities aim at making the public more aware of society's role in providing primary health care services to children. The activities, which will be held in 15 Jordanian villages, will be supervised by the foundation's school health section in cooperation with doctors' associations. The foundation will distribute gifts to children in social institutions, hospitals and camps on this day and will officially open a children's club in Khazna village. Also cooperating with the foundation on the first day will be the General Union of Voluntary Societies, the Haya Arts Centre, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAJSWF), youth centres and the social development centre.

The second day's programme of activities aims to show how children can serve communities through preserving a clean environment and also by contributing to general services projects. Programmes on this day have been prepared by the foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Development, charitable societies, local councils and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

During this day there will be several activities to demonstrate cooperation between Jordanian and Arab children and a show of solidarity with Sudanese children, who will receive gifts.

On the third day, there will be a variety of cultural and artistic activities, including musical performances, plays and outings. The programme for this day has been prepared by the foundation in cooperation with the Department of Arts and Culture, the Haya Arts Centre and the Ministry of Social Development.

The third day will witness the inauguration of the national violin institute which was established by the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education, on the instructions of Her Majesty Queen Noor, in cooperation with the Jordan-U.S. Violinist Association. The programme aims to teach Jordanian children aged between 6 and 18 years to play the violin.


On the fourth day, there will be a number of activities including plays, exhibitions of children's drawings, handicrafts, games and contests, book exhibitions and puppet shows.

On the sixth day, a number of seminars will be organised in various governorates and speakers will talk about the Arab League charter on the rights of the Arab child and about mother and child care.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: A practice in democracy

THE public meeting held in Irbid Thursday reflects the government's true conformity with the directives of King Hussein who ordered that ministers and officials should interact with the public and solve citizens' problems in every possible way. The government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai is surely self-confident and shouldering its full responsibility towards the public and fulfilling the directives of the King. The dialogue the government held with the public in Irbid reflects such responsibility and self-confidence, and is bound to gain the government further support from all sectors of the public. The dialogue by itself is a practice of democracy and it gives both sides a deeper insight into social and economic issues and opens the door for public participation in the decision-making process. Opening a dialogue with the public is perhaps the most effective means of sounding out people's views about matters of public interest; and the open debates reflect the truth about Jordan's democratic image. The government with the dialogue it held in Irbid, has enhanced this democratic concept and the prime minister's speech and replies to demands and requests, in a candid manner, were an embodiment of the meaning of cooperation between the public and the private sectors towards safeguarding national interest.

Al Dustour: Government takes the initiative

THE public meeting held in Irbid yesterday assumes significance, coming on the eve of the implementation of the new five year national development plan. The prime minister and the cabinet members were involved in a debate with the public on all matters of national interest and provided replies to all requests and demands in a manner that reflects responsibility and self-confidence. The debate was necessary as a prelude to the success of the plan which contains social, economic, health and agricultural projects that are of benefit to all public sectors. By holding the public dialogue in Irbid, the government was implementing the King's directives; and by meeting with members of the public, cabinet members have become more aware of people's needs, an important step that enables the government to continue shouldering its responsibilities. Upon its inception, the government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai pledged to open channels with the public and has lived up to expectation; and at the same time enhanced the meaning of democracy in Jordan. The dialogues the government is holding in different regions are bound to boost public confidence in the executive authority and also pave the way for a successful implementation of national development plans.

Sawt Al Shuah: Implementing King's directives

THE open dialogue held in Irbid yesterday reflected the government's determination to implement King Hussein's directives and to honour its commitment contained in a policy statement declared upon the formation of the government last year. The meeting between Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his cabinet members on the one hand and the representatives of public and private sectors on the other can be described as a translation of the government's commitments and a means of bolstering Jordan's democratic image. The implementation of projects included in the 1986-1990 five-year national development plan requires active participation and cooperation between the public and private sectors; and the open dialogue initiated by the government yesterday, is part of this endeavour and another step to safeguard national interest. The government members are obviously keen on hearing public demands and requests and the people's views on matters of interest to all, and for this reason they chose to meet face to face with citizens and to enlist public help in solving problems. The Irbid meeting can therefore be described as a constructive step, and also reflects the government's sound and self-confident policies that aim to serve the Jordanian family.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Prospects for Mideast peace

WE are deeply satisfied with France's decision to make moves within the European Community to speed up the convening of an international conference and prepare the ground for resolving the Middle East question. This decision reflects the French attitude in support of such international gathering and France's understanding of the importance of international supervision of the implementation of United Nations resolutions. We deeply appreciate France's differentiation between acts of terrorism which all Arabs have condemned and resistance against Israeli occupation of Palestinian land which is the right of people living under the yoke of occupation. In adopting this stand, France has not allowed any pressures or blackmail to dissuade it from its policies and its determination to help resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, and has not been affected in the least by the recent series of terrorist bomb attacks on French businesses and people. We hope that the United States will follow France's example and respond to all bids that aim at bringing about a peaceful settlement in our region, and we hope that Washington will accept the idea of an international conference so that the peace process can go ahead unhindered.

Sawt Al Shuah: Jordan enlists France's help

JORDAN has been successful in enlisting France's help in the effort of stimulating moves for reviving the Middle East peace process. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who held talks with French leaders in Paris in the past week, has managed to prompt France to revive its own initiatives and start wide-ranging contacts within the European Community for the sake of convening an international conference to resolve the Middle East problem. France realises the seriousness of the continued Arab-Israeli conflict and realises that the key to the issue lies with the United States which Paris plans to persuade to accept the projected international conference. If France succeeds in its mission, then Washington will no doubt exercise pressure on Israel to make it accept international consensus. The French bid gains momentum at present in view of the prevailing world situation and in the light of preparations for holding a superpower summit that is bound to discuss the Middle East question among other world topics. France has joined the Soviet Union and Arab countries in the call for an international conference in which all concerned parties including the PLO should take part. We appreciate France's position and positive role in helping to bring about peace to our region.

Security accord has potential for other arms talks

By David Masou
The Associated Press

LONDON — The East-West security accord hammered out in Stockholm is a significant breakthrough itself, but it is more important for its potential spillover effect on other more crucial arms negotiations.

The agreement, reached after more than 32 months of often sterile exchanges among the 35 countries involved, cuts new ground in establishing for the first time mandatory on-site inspection of troop movements in a broad swath of the Soviet Union, as well as in Western Europe.

Diplomats and arms experts involved in the talks — which

included the United States and Canada, the Soviet Union and all European countries except Albania — pointed out that on-site verification of the agreement is considered a vital principle being sought by the West in other, more important negotiations.

These include the 13-year-old Vienna talks to reduce land forces in Central Europe, 18 years of Geneva negotiations for a global chemical weapons ban, and the three-sided Geneva talks to cut back long- and medium-range nuclear missiles and, eventually, weapons in space.

Western negotiators have often stressed that without on-site verification, arms accords could be open to widespread cheating.

Spy satellites provide some information, but not enough to satisfy the West.

The Stockholm pact does nothing to reduce opposing ground forces.

But the pact requires signatory nations to give advance notice of military manoeuvres involving 13,000 soldiers or more or 300 tanks or more. If the manoeuvres involve 17,000 soldiers or more, two observers must be invited from other participants in the Stockholm conference.

These provisions reduce the risk of war breaking out through stealth — behind the cover of manoeuvres or accident.

Most significantly, if one country suspects another of cheating, it can demand on-site

inspection in airplanes or land vehicles.

The vision of Western military inspectors openly flying over the Soviet Union and Soviets doing the same over Western Europe is a refreshing indication of a new era in East-West confidence building, the diplomats and arms experts stress.

"What we hope now is that once this principle is established it will set a precedent for other, more important negotiations," said a NATO country diplomat, who would not be identified by name.

One of these is the 40-nation Geneva conference working on a global ban on the production of chemical weapons and destruction of existing stockpiles. The conference has cleared a number

of important hurdles, with one big exception: verification.

So far, the Soviets have balked at a U.S. proposal for on-site inspection. But under a British compromise, some similar and equally convincing procedure is to be established to avoid cheating.

Soviet experts meeting with British counterparts in London last week called the British proposal "positive" and suggested that an agreement in principle could come as early as the end of this year.

Tim Renton, British foreign office minister of state, said: "The veil of secrecy which has up to now cloaked military activity in part of our continent is slowly being lifted."

Referring to the verification measures of the Stockholm agreement, Renton said he hoped they would be relevant to the chemical weapons talks and be an "impetus for more far-reaching steps in arms control and disarmament."

Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev has said he would consider on-site inspection of nuclear weapons agreements, but he has not spelled out whether it would take the form of the Stockholm agreement.

Although much hard shuffling lies ahead, the Stockholm agreement, as U.S. chief negotiator Robert L. Berry said, "shows East and West can say yes to each other for a change."

Reaction to bombings fans anti-Arab feeling in France

By Mort Rosenblum
The Associated Press

TOULON, France — The backlash against terrorism is fanning anti-Arab hatred that has been smouldering in France since the Algerian war officially ended 25 years ago.

French anger is growing in this naval port, in Marseille and elsewhere on the Mediterranean coast where former combatants — French and Arab — have been transplanted since Algeria won independence from France in 1962.

The bitterness extends to northern cities where some outraged, frightened residents link terrorist attacks with all Arabs.

Since Sept. 8, nine people have been killed and 163 injured in five bombings in Paris. Middle East groups have claimed responsibility.

In Paris, a Moroccan who owns a small business and asked not to be named echoed remarks heard across France:

"You can see it coming. Nobody stops to think that terrorism comes from a small group of people in the Middle East. There is going to be open season on Arabs."

There are few recent opinion polls on the overall French attitude toward Arabs. But polls in past years have indicated growing public feeling that there are too many Arab immigrants in the country, despite campaigns by a number of citizen groups set up to fight racist and anti-immigrant sentiment.

North Africans complain mostly of insults, police

harassment and growing uneasiness. But there also is violence.

In Toulon last month, four members of the right-wing SOS-France were blown up with explosives that officials said were intended for North African immigrants.

At their funeral, attended by the mayor of the industrial satellite community of la Seyne, a police officer solemnly eulogised: "What you took to be your duty, you carried out to the end."

One mourner sobbed: "They died for France."

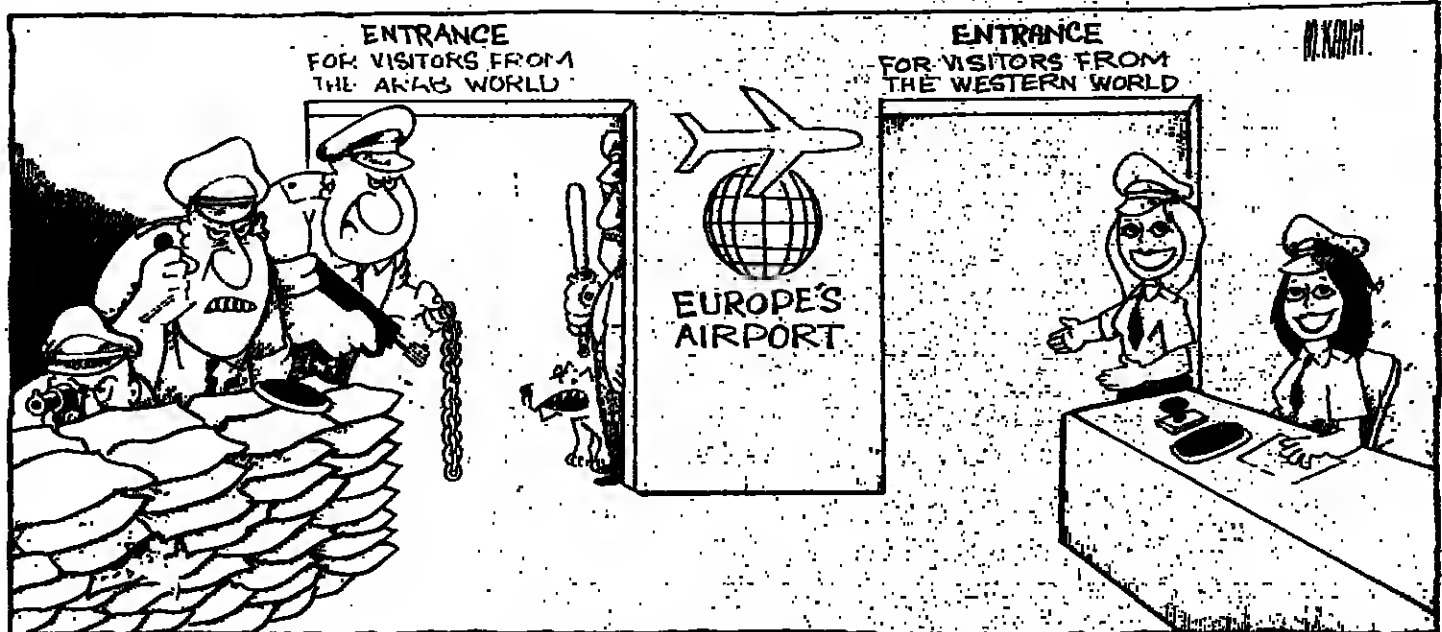
Since spring, 10 bombs have shattered bars and halls in Toulon where immigrants gather. Several North Africans were severely injured.

"The Algerian war has never ended here," said Ahmed Touati, Toulon chairman of the nationwide organisation SOS-Racism, an anti-discrimination group. "Toulon moved to Paris after threats to his life."

Touati blames mayor Françoise Trucy and other authorities for making public links between North African immigrants and the problems facing France: terrorism, unemployment and rising crime.

"It is almost a call to attack," he said. "Toulon is full of paramilitary thugs (hoodlums) waiting to be motivated in acts in the past. If incited with false pretexts, they will kill innocent people."

Touati said he has worked hard to calm militants who want to fight back. "They feel isolated, alone, and authorities encourage conditions for attacks against them," he said.



"Immigrant" is a misleading label, he added. He is French for example, born in Toulon, where he is joining the navy. His father settled here in 1945 after helping the French army liberate the city in World War II.

For many, however, Arab means immigrant.

"There are too many here, way too many, and they have to be sent back," said Paul Lopez, vice president of the Maison du Para, which is widely considered a gathering point for extremists.

The newly formed organisation includes retired paratroopers, other veterans, sympathisers and a number of young sons of members who take part in sporting events.

Its bar, under a parachute pinned to the ceiling, is decorated by memorabilia from Vietnam

and Algeria. On a typical afternoon, uniformed police remonstrate with retired foreign legionnaires and former members of the secret army organisation, which tried to block independence by terrorising Algerians in France.

A sign inside the door reads: "Do not forget that since March 19, 1962, 150,000 French Muslims and 10,000 pied noirs (Europeans in Algeria) have been assassinated." It refers to post-war reprisals by the victorious Algerians. The figures are disputed.

The Maison du Para, inaugurated earlier this year by mayor Trucy, is in the downtown ward election district where the extreme right-wing National Front of Jean-Marie Le Pen captured 38 per cent of the vote in

the March National elections. The National Front polled 10 per cent nationwide.

At the other extreme, 8,000 North Africans live in a downtown neighbourhood in an atmosphere reminiscent of the old casbah of Algiers.

Young men drink somberly in bars, suspiciously eyeing European newcomers. An American correspondent, introduced by a familiar local journalist, received mainly one-word answers to his questions.

Almost unanimously, North Africans said they were afraid of rising sentiment against them.

The harsh climate worries many French who condemn racism and regard immigration as a proud pillar of their country's history.

"There is cause for fear, no question about it," said a young professional who asked to be identified only as Jean-Pierre.

Roger Martini, a Toulon antique dealer with Italian roots, deplored racism, but took a philosophical approach.

"Some group is always targeted. As a child, I came home crying because kids called me (names) ... when the Algerians integrate, it will be someone else. Then probably the Martians," he said.

In Paris, Laure Skoutelsky of SOS-Racism headquarters said that terrorist bombings over the past few weeks did not provoke a wave of violence against Arabs but, rather, a rising feeling of hostility.

"There is growing uneasiness," she said. "That is plain."

Brazil prepares for first congressional polls open to all

By Stephen Powell
Reuters

RIO DE JANEIRO — For the first time in its history, Brazil is preparing for congressional elections in which all adult Brazilians, rich and poor, will be entitled to vote.

Until last year the country's nearly 20 million illiterates, who include slum dwellers from the teeming favelas of Brazil's major cities — many peasant farmers and day labourers — had no political say.

Now the politicians are playing to a much larger audience and campaigning has opened in earnest for the elections on November 15 which will shape Brazil's constitutional future.

The voters will choose senators, federal deputies, governors, state deputies and town councilors.

The 72 senators and 487 federal deputies will make up a constituent assembly to be set up early next year, charged with writing a new constitution after 21 years of military rule.

The military stepped down 18

months ago and Brazil is governed by an indirectly-elected civilian president, Jose Sarney.

Sarney, who took power in April last year after the death of president-elect Tancredo Neves, has said that the constituent assembly must decide whether to cut the presidential term from its present six years.

Despite the enfranchising of the illiterate, which swells the electorate to 69 million, some commentators are predicting that poll will move the country to the right.

Financial clout is likely to figure more prominently in the elections than political issues.

Press reports have estimated that \$1.2 billion will be spent in what is being described as the most costly political campaigns in the history of the country.

According to the news magazine Veja, the two leading candidates for the governorship of Sao Paulo state, businessman Paulo Maluf and Antonio Ermirio de Moraes, will each be spending \$60 million on their campaigns.

Ermirio de Moraes, head of the

country's largest private conglomerate, Votorantim, and candidate of the Brazilian Workers' Party (PTB), makes no secret of his heavy spending and retains a large fleet of campaigns cars.

At stake is the governorship of a state whose burgeoning industrial might has given Sao Paulo an economy larger than that of Argentina, Brazil's closest economic rival in South America.

Maluf, the defeated presidential candidate last year, is standing for the Social Democratic Party (PSD) which has strong traditional links with the former military governments.

The Brazilian press is already giving blanket coverage to the elections and candidates appear on radio and television daily to win favour of voters.

One well-groomed Rio de Janeiro candidate appeared on television flying over the city's slums by helicopter, promising to improve living conditions for the impoverished faveladinos who live in shacks made of wood and metal sheets.

Nationwide, the ruling coalition parties, the centre-right Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) and the smaller Liberal Front (PFL), are expected to emerge strongly from the poll.

In the outgoing senate, the ruling parties held 43 of the seats and in the chamber of deputies 300 seats.

PMDB candidates are front-runners in the important states of Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro.

In Rio, one of the candidates for the governorship is a former guerrilla turned ecologist, Fernando Gabeira, bespectacled intellectual with a thin face and wry smile, heads Brazil's newly-formed Green Party.

In 1969 Gabeira, then active with the Leftist MR-8 guerrilla group, helped to kidnap the U.S. ambassador to Brazil Charles Burke Elbrick, who was released unharmed after a few days.

Gabeira was captured but freed soon afterwards in a group of political prisoners released in exchange for a kidnapped West German ambassador.

Both U.S. parties see Democratic House gains in November

By Jim Drinkard
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan's Republican Party faces an uphill battle in the November elections to keep the seats it holds in the House of Representatives.

The opposition Democrats have controlled the lower house of Congress for almost 32 years, but the Republicans have made some gains since Reagan's elections six years ago.

But Reagan has only two years left in office, and the Republicans face losing some of their newfound strength, political analysts say.

No one in either party is predicting a shift of more than 10 to 15 seats in the Democrats' favour. Most House members of both parties are seeking re-election, and most are expected to win.

The Republican Party now controls 180 House seats, against 252 for the Democrats, with three vacancies. An additional erosion of 15 seats would put the Republican roll at 165, back

within 10 seats of where the party was before Reagan's 1980 landslide over Jimmy Carter.

And that could be a heavy blow for what is looking increasingly like an all-but-permanent minority. Republicans haven't had the upper hand in the House since 1954.

"It could cause a lot of shoulders to sag and cause young members to think about other careers, knowing they'll never be in the majority in their lifetimes," said Norman Ornstein, a political analyst with the conservative-oriented American Enterprise Institute.

Reagan's popularity and fund-raising ability have helped House Republicans. His 1980 victory allowed them to begin the 97th Congress with 192 seats, up from 157 two years earlier. That gain also helped Reagan win some of the administration's early victories on budget and tax issues.

"The challenge for House Democrats in the Reagan era was to maintain control," says representative Tony Coelho, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign

Committee. "Not only have we done that, but after 1980, we will have virtually erased Reagan's impact."

By history's standards, a shift of 10 to 15 seats this year would be small. The party in its sixth year of control of the White House has lost an average of 52 seats in the four such elections since 1938.

But Democrats point out that each of those previous "sixth-year" elections was accompanied by a blockbuster national issue, such as Watergate in 1974 or the Vietnam war in 1966. There is no dominant nationwide focus for House races this year, making them more likely to be decided on local issues, candidates' personalities and mistakes, and political organization.

The opening the Democrats see to maximize their gains is a weakness in the economy. The nation's large and growing trade deficit, the federal budget deficit and the continuing depression in agriculture and the oil industry all could motivate voters to send a message of discontent to Washington.

"We aren't saying the economy's going to hell," said Mark Johnson, an aide to the Democratic headquarters. But he said those people who do have economic problems and the Democrats believe there are many, particularly in the nation's heartland, are feeling neglected.

"The key phrase is 'out of touch,'" Johnson said.

Both parties will be focusing most closely on the 43 open seats where there is no incumbent either because of the retirement, death or because the lawmaker is seeking higher office.

But overall, the battleground is not all that large. The advantages of incumbency have become so great that it generally takes serious errors by a lawmaker, and a vigorous, well-funded opponent to even pose a credible threat to re-election.

The growth in congressional staff, increased use of mailing privileges, cable television exposure, district lines drawn to benefit incumbents — all have added up to a 92 per cent success rate since 1950 for those seeking to keep their seats.

Poverty among children in United States on the rise

By N. Nissim

POVERTY among children in the United States has been growing steadily for the past twenty years, and in New York City in particular, it is reaching crisis proportions.

The greatest victims of poverty continue to be among minorities - blacks and Hispanics - and among single and unwed mothers. Few new ways to cope with the increasing poverty are being found, and many government programmes designed to alleviate poverty among mothers and children are in danger of losing their funding as lawmakers try to balance the national budget and reduce the national deficit.

In New York City alone, 40 per cent of children - some 700,000 of them - are living in families that the government classifies as poor.

Among them, 111,000 do not have homes of their own and live in shelters for the homeless.

Still others suffer from social disorders related to poverty: 3,000 children are born addicted to drugs each year, and 12,000 are removed to foster homes because of abuse or neglect.

"The system is being strained beyond its limits by the magnitude and pervasiveness of poverty and family breakdown," Andrew Stein, President of the City Council of New York wrote in an

article published in *The New York Times*. "Children are being abused and mistreated at record levels, abandoned like excess luggage, and we are simply running out of places to put them."

Teenage pregnancy

A major factor contributing to the tremendous proportion of women and children among the city's impoverished is a growing epidemic of teenage pregnancy.

One out of four girls 14 years old today will be pregnant at least once before her 18th birthday; one out of eight will have had at least one abortion; and one out of 11 will be a mother. In 1984 alone, 13,000 babies were born to teenagers.

Pregnant teenagers are at greater risk of bearing low-birth-weight babies than other expectant mothers, and teenage pregnancy is the single most important factor causing girls to drop out of school.

National problem

Poverty among children is hardly confined to New York. Nationally, the poverty rate among children has grown from 12 per cent in 1965 to 25 per cent in 1985.

Today, one out of every four children in the United States under the age of six lives in

poverty. Among minorities, statistics are more alarming. Half of all black children and of all children living in households headed by women, as well as two-fifths of all Hispanic children, live in poverty.

Worldwide, the United States ranks 14th in keeping infants alive in their first year of life. According to a report released by a senior lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, a black infant born in Chicago is more likely to die in the first year of life than an infant in Costa Rica.

Cutbacks in government aid

Despite these alarming statistics, government programmes that are vital to the well-being of low-income children, youth and families are in danger of losing some of their funding.

Lawmakers in Congress are slashing budget allocations in an effort to reduce the government's operating deficit, which last year climbed over U.S.\$200 billion.

According to the Children's Defence Fund, a child welfare lobby group based in Washington D.C., budget cuts to date have fallen disproportionately on programmes for the poor.

The Children's Defence Fund blames rising military expenditures and growing tax loopholes for the growing deficit,



A familiar sight in many of America's affluent metropolises

and says that cutting programmes for the poor will not reduce the deficit significantly.

The Fund has urged the adoption of a Children's Survival Bill to guarantee the survival of sound, proven current

programmes for poor children and mothers.

Some lawmakers have supported features of this bill, and are fighting to make the welfare of children a budgetary priority.

"If we move the problems of

poor children to the top of our agenda, we can find the means to intervene and save many from utterly shattered lives," Andrew Stein said. "In saving them, we would be saving ourselves." - Action for Children, UNICEF.

World's refugees face long battle against despair

By Claude Fillet
Reporter

GI:NI:VA - The globe has around 12 million refugees scattered across its face who have fled their countries to escape war, civil unrest, and famine, say international refugee agencies.

There are 10 million exiles helped by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), based here, and two million Palestinians listed by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

But in addition, there are millions more who have been displaced within their own countries.

The problems confronting refugees were first internationally recognised after World War II, which displaced an estimated 30 million people. As a result, the U.N. General Assembly approved the creation of the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) - the UNHCR's predecessor - in 1947.

Beginning work in 1947, the IRO helped resettle over one million refugees over four years.

In the past decade, refugee movements have taken on new dimensions - with large numbers travelling from one continent to another.

The recent saga of the 155 Tamil found drifting off the Canadian coast showed refugee protection problems now affected all parts of the world, UNHCR spokesman Michel Barriot told Reuters.

Refugees are not a commodity," he said. "Once they become desperate, human beings are able to deploy tremendous efforts of imagination as well as physical efforts to improve their condition."

The largest movement of refugees since the UNHCR was founded in 1951 was the flight of some 10 million people from the then East Pakistan into India in 1971 - they returned after Bangladesh gained independence at the end of that year.

In 1971, refugees in Africa alone had swollen to 2.85 million. Globally they numbered some seven million and in two years the total climbed to over 10 million.

The two biggest causes were the continuing exodus of Indochinese following the Communist victory

in Vietnam in 1975, and the war in Afghanistan.

The conflict in Afghanistan scene of a brutal civil war between the Soviet-backed regime and U.S.-backed guerrillas - has caused the largest single concentration of refugees in the world, in Pakistan. The government estimates there are some three million, up from 400,000 in 1981. Iran reportedly shelters another 2.3 million refugees.

The Palestinian people, stateless for decades and a long-standing issue in the Middle East conflict, are also one of the major refugee dilemmas.

There are 2.1 million Palestinian refugees registered with the Vienna-based UNRWA. About 40 per cent live in Jordan. An UNRWA report released in May said most refugee camps lack adequate sewage systems, resulting in serious health hazards.

It also described problems of overcrowded classrooms and persistent infectious diseases.

Other major troublespots around the world include:

Central America: Well over one million people, may be twice as many, have been displaced by fear, violence and misery in the past decade. Only a small minority - about 120,000 - benefit from the protection of the U.N. agency. They include nearly 34,000 Salvadorans, more than 42,000 Guatemalans, and almost 34,000 Nicaraguan refugees.

The Horn of Africa: A number of Ethiopian refugees have returned to their home province of Tigre in the north of the country this year from neighbouring Sudan, but some 700,000 Ethiopians are still in Sudan.

There has also been an influx of some 80,000 Ethiopians into north-west Somalia, fleeing famine and war. Between 120,000 to 150,000 Ugandan refugees are in South Sudan, the UNHCR says.

The Far East: Some 35,000 boat people are now languishing in transit camps all over South East Asia waiting for a chance to move to a new life elsewhere. Of these, more than 10,000 have been waiting for three years or more.

In Thailand, another 120,000 Indochinese refugees are waiting for a better future.

Will the Great Pyramid yield up its secrets?

By Jean-Francois Augereau

ONE of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Great Pyramid built at Giza by Cheops in about 2600 B.C., may not yet have yielded all its secrets, say two French amateur archaeologists. There is a strong possibility, they claim, that within the bowels of that imposing limestone construction almost 150 metres high there could well exist undiscovered passages and cavities - and even a second royal chamber reached by a different entrance. The investigations are taking place this month.

The originators of this bold theory are two architects from the northern French town of Arras, Gilles Dormion and Jean-Patrice Goklin. Undaunted by fears that they may be trespassing on ground normally reserved for specialists, they examined anomalies in the construction of the Great Pyramid and posited the existence of a hitherto unknown underground funerary complex.

As a result of their efforts, preliminary investigations were organised by the French Foreign Ministry in conjunction with the Department of Egyptian Antiquities. They were carried out by the research department of l'Electricite de France (EDF) and the Compagnie de Prospection Geophysique Francaise (CPGF).

These revealed that the passage leading to the queen's chamber contained an "abnormal zone" behind which there could well exist three or four hidden cavities.

Philippe Guillemin, deputy head of social and human affairs in the French Foreign Ministry, was more than surprised, as he was by the imagination, when he was

approached in December 1985 by the two architects in question, who at that time knew more about skin-diving than archaeology. They set about proving to him that they had possibly succeeded where generations of earlier investigators had failed.

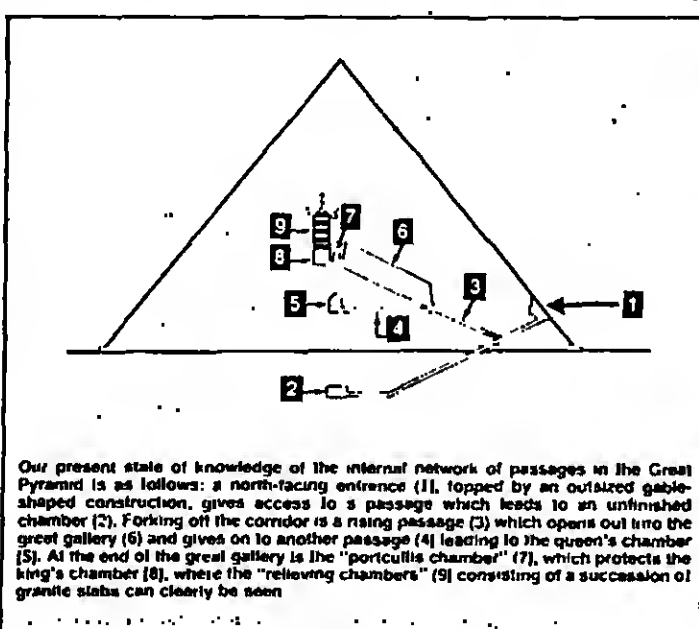
His surprise was all the greater because Dormion and Goklin first became interested in Egypt's Fourth Dynasty after reading a comic book called "Le Mystere de la Grande Pyramide". The book gives a faithful reproduction of Cheops's great gallery, which leads to the king's chamber. On either side of that passage there is a series of mortise-like cavities.

The two architects wondered what the cavities were doing there, but could find no satisfactory explanation, not even in the specialised literature on the subject. One question led to another, and soon they were hunting for similar architectural anomalies all over the pyramid.

To their view, the existence of such quirks could not possibly be coincidental. Cheops's architect was far too painstaking in his design of the Great Pyramid to leave anything to chance. The northern orientation of the construction is only one twelfth of a degree out. And the pyramid's base is almost perfectly level, with a difference of a mere 4.5 millimetres over an area of five hectares.

The careful calculation, geometrical sophistication and meticulous accuracy that went into the pyramid resulted in an almost technically perfect edifice, which makes its oddities all the more curious.

Nine such architectural



Our present state of knowledge of the internal network of passages in the Great Pyramid is as follows: a north-facing entrance (1), topped by an outcast gable-shaped construction, gives access to a passage which leads to an unfinished chamber (2). Forking off the corridor is a rising passage (3) which opens out into the great gallery (4) and gives on to another passage (4) leading to the queen's chamber (5). At the end of the great gallery is the "portcullis chamber" (7), which protects the king's chamber (8), where the "relieving chambers" (9) consisting of a succession of granite slabs can clearly be seen.

anomalies were investigated. One of them, already mentioned, is located in the passage leading to the queen's chamber, where the existence of three or four hidden cavities has virtually been proved.

Another anomaly concerns the massive set of stone lotus, seven metres high which form a gable over the pyramid's relatively small entrance. The latter is surmounted by three 20-ton slabs whose purpose has remained a mystery.

Most curious of all is the fact that the last of these slabs rests against masonry made of Turah limestone, which was normally used as a facing material for the pyramid's internal passages. Why?

The purpose of masonry forming a gable is to protect the

space beneath it. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that the present entrance, which was left relatively visible, was designed to attract tomb robbers, while at the same time containing a cunningly concealed second entrance.

Another odd feature is the celebrated "Portcullis Chamber", located at the end of the great gallery, and whose purpose was to protect the King's Chamber. The three granite "portcullises" which were supposed to keep robbers out are regarded as ineffective by most archaeologists because the height of the chamber is such that it is relatively simple to climb over them.

What curious motive could Cheops's architect have had in constructing a protective device that was bound to be violated?

Like the Queen's Chamber, it is topped by limestone slabs arranged to form a gable. It is difficult to explain why the limestone slabs were placed so high above the chamber. Nor is it clear why, in this case, the relieving chambers do not in fact relieve any weight or help in any way to spread the downward thrust.

Once again, the unusual and artificial height of the gable formation may have been deliberately intended to transfer laterally the tremendous thrust of the masonry above it and thus create, on either side of the relieving chambers, a kind of "protected zone" which might house a yet undiscovered cavity.

The two Arras architects succeeded in convincing both

France's inspector general of historic monuments, Yves Boiret, and an architect specialising in Middle Eastern archaeology, Bernard Maury. As a result, Philippe Guillemin of the French Foreign Ministry provided around 900,000 francs (about £9,000) for an initial investigation. This and further investigations were authorised by Ahmed Kadry in Cairo, head of the Department of Egyptian Antiquities.

Results were not long in coming: by May, the team organised by EDF and the CPGF came up with very strong evidence for the existence of three or four cavities in the passage leading to the Queen's Chamber at the exact spot postulated by Dormion and Goklin.

Similarly, one of the measurements effected in the first relieving chamber revealed a weak point in the northwest corner of the king's chamber - not exactly where it was expected to be found, but almost.

These results have prompted the French Foreign Ministry to seek an excavation authorisation from the Egyptian government and micro-drilling is now being carried out in the passage leading to the Queen's Chamber. If this proves successful, endoscopes will be inserted which would reveal what is inside.

EDF and the CPGF are carrying out the drilling in liaison with Kadry's teams of Egyptian specialists. If this initial work is successful, and if important archaeological finds are made, the two Arras architects will have cracked the code which fooled tomb robbers in the 9th century A.D. - Le Monde.

Tree deaths caused by soil disease, not aerial pollution, claims scientist

By Dankwart Guratsch

A Freiburg University teacher, Hans Mohr, has come up with a new theory on *Waldsterben*, the death of Germany's forests.

Research scientist Mohr, 56, a biologist, has reactivated the debate on the link (still not conclusively established) between atmospheric pollution and plant damage.

In an interim report published in the specialist journal *Biologie in unserer Zeit* he modestly reviews, in the role of what he calls a compiler and integrator, the latest research findings by his fellow-biologists.

"All we have done," he says, "is to carry out strict physiological work in the laboratory."

The result is striking because Mohr succeeds better than many of his fellow-scientists in reconciling the most varied classic hypotheses.

His starting-point is mycorrhiza, a symbiosis of tree roots and certain soil fungus.

Mycorrhiza is defined as a fungal

mycelium investing or penetrating the underground parts of a higher plant and supplying it with material from humus instead of root-hairs.

In other words, the fungus absorbs water and nutrient from the soil instead of the roots, drawing on the tree's supply of soluble hydrocarbons and vitamins in return.

If the fungus is damaged the tree will show signs of impeded growth and root blight.

Mohr says mycorrhiza can protect the tree from a wide range of harmful influences, all of which have been at one time or another blamed for the tree death epidemic.

It filters out heavy metals and acts as a buffer between the tree and acidification of the soil. It also keeps toxic concentrations of aluminium ions at bay.

It even shields the tree from the depredations of pathogenic fungi.

Yet mycorrhiza can readily be upset by environmental influences, he says, trouble not being mainly caused by natural

enemies or chemical poisons.

The difficulty seems to be created by the very substances plants as a rule have a shortage of nitrogen.

Oddly enough, there is a parallel here with the overfertilisation of waterways by chemicals.

Temporarily, Mohr says, vegetation takes kindly to an overdose of nitrogen, which is

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to wind, frost and parasites.

Mohr will, however, hear nothing of damage to leaves and needles being due to the direct above-ground effect of aggressive atmospheric toxins.

He feels this can be ruled out because the regenerative shoots of fir trees are perfectly healthy even when the tree has suffered serious damage.

"Tree damage must in contrast

be seen as "symptomatic of a disease emanating from the soil and affecting the entire organism."

If this complaint is attributed to damage to mycorrhiza and this damage to a surplus of nitrogen, there is no difficulty whatever in proving the existence of this surplus.

Mohr quotes research findings by F.H. Meyer of Hannover that

atmospheric nitrogen has increased by 50 per cent over the past 20 years.

This increase is due mainly to vehicle exhaust, static emission, gas, oil and coal-fired central heating and ammonia emission by farmers and refuse disposal facilities.

There is ample evidence of a nitrogen surplus in the forests. Trees no longer respond positively to additional doses of nitrogen and vegetation undergoes changes in a "nitrogen forest."

Blackberries, elderberries, nettles, hemp agrimony and other sure signs of nitrogen in plenty spread like wildfire. Woodland is quickly overgrown by grass.

Algae and lichen grow vigorously. Wood plants that do not naturally go in for mycorrhiza, or symbiosis with fungus, go from strength to strength.

Mohr's hypothesis would seem to account for tree deaths particularly in regions where the air is clean and areas remote from industrial and power station locations where static emission of

sulphur dioxide is high.

These clean-air regions he has in mind, such as the Erzgebirge in Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland and parts of Bavaria bordering on Czechoslovakia, suffer from tree disease partly as a result of high SO₂ levels, he says.

Yet in these areas there is no clear link between tree damage and the SO₂ count.

Besides, sulphur dioxide pollution has tended to decline in West Germany since 1970, whereas tree deaths did not clearly start until 1978 and have since steadily gained momentum.

Comparative statistics show, he says, the nitrogen balance in Central Europe to be appalling. In North American and Scandinavian clean air regions nitrogen precipitation is estimated at less than one kilogramme per hectare.

In Holland the figure is 60, in the Black Forest 40 kilograms per hectare per year, of which the forests are capable of handling five kilograms at most - Die Welt, Bonn.

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Hong Kong wins its 1st gold in Asian Games history

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Woman bowler Che Kuk Hung won Hong Kong's first gold medal in Asian Games history Friday and Japanese swimmer Katsumori Fujiwara raced to his fourth of the current games, but China kept padding its overall lead.

Che rolled a final game of 203 on her way to a six-game total of 1,165, and beat Thailand's Wannasiri Duangdee by 13 pins for the women's singles gold medal.

Hong Kong had not won a gold medal since Asia's version of the Olympics began in 1951.

The games' swimming competition ended with 28 games' records shattered in 29 events and Japan's previous dominance in the sport further reduced. The Japanese won 17 races — including three Friday — compared with 21 in the last Asian in 1982.

Freestyle racer Fujiwara became the games' third quadruple gold medalist as he anchored a Japanese 4 x 100-metre medley relay team that won in the games record time of 3 minutes, 46.55 seconds, smashing the Asian record of 3:56.48 and beating China by two seconds.

The others with four gold medals here are Chinese gymnast Li Ning and Chinese shooter Xu Haifeng. Both won gold medals at the 1984 Olympics.

In one games sidelight, wrestlers from the warring nations of Iran and Iraq met in second-round Greco-Roman

competition. Iran's Abdulkarim Kakahaji stopped Stah J. Salih of Iraq at 5:25, with the judges awarding him "great superiority," in the 52-kilogramme division match.

Even though China had no entries in four of the day's gold medal competitions — two in bowling and two in equestrian events — it still won seven of the 16 golds at stake.

With eight days still to go in the 16-day games, the Chinese had 53 of the 100 golds awarded, along with 36 silvers and 22 bronzes.

Japan, with five golds Friday, had 26 golds, 33 silvers and 34 bronzes. South Korea won three golds, giving it a total of 18, along with 21 silvers and 24 bronzes.

Aside from Hong Kong, the only other countries with gold medals were Iran and the Philippines. Iran won a cycling gold and the Philippines captured one in golf.

China won four of its golds Friday in women's shooting events, breaking three Asian records in the process. It also had one each in women's diving, men's sabre fencing and swimming.

The platform diving victory by Lu Wei completed a Chinese sweep of all four of the games' diving events. She edged teammate Xu Yanwei with 460.02 points to 456.90. Japan's Yayoi

Kihara was third with 425.91.

In sabre fencing, China's Wang Xingqi beat teammate Wang Zhiming 10-6 in the final.

South Koreans, however, beat their Chinese opponents in the semifinals of the men's foil fencing, and Ko Nak-Choon beat teammate Cho Jai-Song 10-6 in the final.

Japan's Masami Hirai won the men's bowling singles with a six-game total of 1,280, breaking the games record of 1,220 he set in 1978. Renato Reyes of the Philippines took the silver with a 1,253 total.

Japan also won the team gold in the three-day equestrian competition with 304.2 penalty points, to 366.80 for South Korea. But South Korea's Choi Myung-Jin won the individual title with 57.40 to 61.60 for Eiki Miyazaki of Japan.

In swimming, aside from the relay, Japanese won the men's 200-metre individual medley and the women's 200-metre butterfly. Natsumi Matsuda won the medley in 2:05.48, breaking the old Asian Games record of 2:10.22, and Izumi Kawahara won the butterfly in 2:12.83, beating the mark of 2:14.26 set by teammate Kiyomi Takahashi in the morning's qualifying. Takahashi won the silver.

South Korea's Choi Yeon-Hee won her second gold medal of the games in the women's 300-metre backstroke. Her 2:18.33 broke the games record of 2:21.96 that she had set in winning the event in New Delhi in 1982.

King congratulates Jordanian teams

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable of congratulations to the Jordanian basketball team for its victories over Japan and Malaysia at the 10th Asian Games.

In his cable the King expressed his pride in the team and his gratitude for the victories. He also wished the Jordanian team further victories.

The King also sent a congratulatory cable to the Jordanian squash team on the occasion of its winning the Second Arab Championships held in Kuwait this past week. The King

wished the team continued success.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, also sent cables of congratulations to the Jordanian teams.

At a press conference on Friday, the Minister of Youth Dr. Eid Dahiyat said that his ministry was implementing a comprehensive plan to raise the standards of sports among the young. The plan will include close supervision of the standards of sports club and a new law requiring the licensing of sports clubs in Jordan.

Arabs threatened boycott

SEOUL (R) — A threat by Arab countries to boycott the next Asian Games in Peking forced China to withdraw its candidate for the presidency of the region's top sporting body and allow Kuwait's Fahd Al Sabah to extend his term for another five years, authoritative sources said.

Fahd was unanimously re-elected president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) after He Zheliang, China's vice minister in charge of the Chinese physical and sports commission, withdrew at the last minute, saying he was not contesting the elections in the interests of Asian unity.

The sources told Reuters several countries in the Middle East threatened to boycott the 1990 games as part of diplomatic pressure to ensure that Fahd would be re-elected unopposed. They said the move had seriously divided the OCA and blamed India for a key role in

negotiating Fahd's unanimous re-election in return for the unopposed re-election of an Indian secretary general, Chaman Lal Mehta.

The threat was confirmed by several National Olympic Committee (NOC) delegates attending the meeting of the OCA at Seoul during the 10th games here.

"Saudi Arabia and even Iran and Iraq had decided to apply pressure on China to support Prince Fahd," said Indian delegate Umrao Singh, while Indonesian NOC Secretary General Mohammad Serengat added that he had heard "whispers of the boycott" before the last OCA session.

Fahd rejected reports of the boycott threat, but confirmed that the Arab countries had met Wednesday to decide unanimously to back him in his bid for re-election.

China's He and Saudi Arabian delegates also said there were no threats of a boycott, but merely a reaffirmation of Arab support for a fellow Arab country.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Palestinians and Taiwanese admitted to OCA

SEOUL (R) — Taiwan and the top Palestinian sports body were provisionally admitted to the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), but failed to gain full status after day-long deliberations among the 31 member countries. OCA President Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah, newly re-elected to a second term as head of the body, told Reuters the National Olympic Committees of Taiwan and the Palestine National Olympic Committee were admitted unopposed.

Chiburdanidze wins 8th game

SOFIA (R) — Defending Soviet women's world chess champion Maya Chiburdanidze won the eighth game of the current world title series against her compatriot Elena Akhmedovskaya. Chiburdanidze, playing black Thursday, led her challenger by six points to two.

S. Korea arrests over 200,000 for Asian Games

SEOUL (R) — South Korea arrested 263,564 suspected criminals — one in every 150 of the population — in a three-month drive to tighten security for the Asian Games underway in Seoul, police said. Those arrested in the three months before the games included suspected hoodlums, robbers, pickpockets, rapists and murderers, police said.

Astros clinch title on Scott's no-hitter

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Scott gave the Houston Astros and their fans two reasons to celebrate Thursday — a no-hitter that clinched the National League West championship.

Scott struck out 13 and walked two as the Astros beat the San Francisco Giants 2-0 in Houston. Scott retired 19 straight batters at one point in pitching the first nine-inning National League no-hitter since Bob Forsch of St. Louis did it on Sept. 26, 1983. Last Friday, Joe Cowley of the

Chicago White Sox pitched the most recent no-hitter in the Major Leagues.

"I'm numb, I'm tired, but this is fantastic," the champagne-drenched Scott shouted above his celebrating teammates. "Right now, I hope I don't fall down and pass out."

The Astros will open the best-of-seven league playoffs at home on Oct. 8 against the East champion New York Mets.

In other National League games Chicago beat New York 8-2, Montreal beat Pittsburgh 8-4, Cincinnati beat Atlanta 6-4, St. Louis beat Philadelphia 5-4 and Los Angeles beat San Diego 4-3 in 10 innings in the first game of a double-header and San Diego won the second 7-6.

In the American League, Kansas City beat Minnesota 4-1, Toronto beat Detroit 4-2, Milwaukee beat Baltimore 9-3 and California beat Cleveland 6-3.

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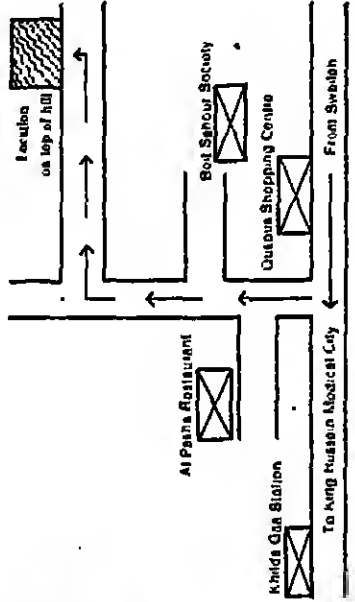
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Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Boiler Island Tender Document No. 51/86, for the Aqaba Thermal Power Station Stage II is available for purchase as of 27 September 1986.

The tender consists of the supply, delivery, erection, testing and commissioning of two boiler units with all the auxiliaries.

It is expected that Arab, World Bank and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the respective lending agencies. Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10.00 a.m. Amman Time, 18 February, 1987 at the JEA offices in Amman. Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 1,000 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the tender documents.

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- The requested visa (valid for a maximum of one year) will be issued after the approval of the French authorities in Paris where the application is sent.
- A delay of several weeks is to be expected between the submission of the application and the deliverance of the visa.

Nationals of other countries are invited to contact the French Embassy in advance in order to find out what are the conditions that apply to them.



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French troops arrive in Lome in support of Togo's president

LOME (Agencies) — Some 150 French troops flew into Togo overnight to prop up the regime of President Gnassingbe Eyadema, Lome airport sources said.

They said the troops were airlifted from unidentified African countries after an apparent coup attempt against the pro-Western leader of the West African country.

French Defence Ministry officials said in Paris Thursday they ordered the move at the request of the Togolese government.

The two countries are linked by a 1963 defence agreement. The sources said the airport was open again to civil traffic after a 24-hour closure, following Tuesday night's attack on Eyadema's barracks residence in the capital.

The government said 13 people, including seven members of a 50-strong attacking force were killed.

Diplomatic sources said sporadic shooting that kept people

off the streets of the capital for the second successive day Thursday indicated a more serious challenge to Eyadema's authority than initially claimed by the government.

The fact that France announced it was sending troops to its former West African colony was a further indication of the level of concern, the sources said.

The French soldiers, including paratroopers, were all drawn from French bases in Africa and had air force cover. Defence Ministry officials in Paris said.

Military sources said the attackers, who have yet to be identified, planned either to kill or capture 50-year-old Eyadema.

Togolese state radio has reported that 10 other members of the dissident force that attacked the barracks had been arrested in a series of house-to-house

searches, bringing the total of those held to 29.

Togolese authorities have described Tuesday night's attacks on the barracks, state radio and other strategic buildings as terrorist acts and not an attempt to overthrow the regime.

However, renewed clashes Thursday and the fact that Eyadema did not point an accusing finger at neighbouring Ghana, from where the "terrorist commando" was alleged to have set off, prompted diplomatic sources to speculate on serious internal problems.

Eyadema has ruled the tiny West African state with an iron hand since he seized power in a coup 19 years ago.

He established a one-party system, tolerating no dissent.

Most opponents of the regime live in exile in France and Ghana but the Accra government denied any involvement in the attacks, describing them as an internal matter.

The authorities have imposed a

night curfew on the entire country following the commando attack.

Bombs rocked Lome last year, killing two people, and the government earlier this year said it had foiled a Libyan plot to blow up the United States embassy.

Lome was reported quiet Friday, with no repetition of the shooting of the past 48 hours but state radio repeated a statement advising residents to stay at home and report suspicious people.

Sources close to the government said Eyadema was firmly in control. Shops, markets, banks and public buildings were shut for the third successive day.

The government has given no clue on the identity of those involved in the bloody events of the past three days.

The border with Ghana remained shut and Accra has said it was considering sealing its own side of the frontier.

The French paratroopers were posted at strategic points of the city and patrolled the streets in their light vehicles.

Jaruzelski due in Peking on Sunday

PEKING (R) — Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski is due to arrive in Peking on Sunday for a visit expected by diplomats to signal a new phase in boosting links between China and Eastern Europe.

Gen. Jaruzelski, head of state and first secretary of the Polish Communist Party, will be the highest-ranking visitor to China from any of Moscow's close East European allies since the Sino-Soviet split in the early 1960s.

East European sources said normalisation of Sino-Soviet relations was likely to be a major topic when Gen. Jaruzelski meets Chinese leaders, including Deng Xiaoping and Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang.

They said Gen. Jaruzelski had stopped in Moscow for talks with senior Soviet officials on his way to Asia and would call there again on his homeward journey.

Gen. Jaruzelski, now in North Korea after visiting Mongolia, arrived East Germany by the hastily arranged addition of Peking to his travel programme.

Until Gen. Jaruzelski's China trip was planned, East German leader Erich Honecker looked like being the first top figure among Moscow's allies to make the important political gesture of visiting Peking.

Mr. Honecker is due here in late October. To minimise the embarrassment, Gen. Jaruzelski's trip is being classed as a working visit, without the guards of honour and other ceremonial events of a state visit like Mr. Honecker's.

The GAO, which is the investigative arm of Congress, also reviewed the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, but found no groundwater contaminants that exceed drinking water standards. And it said concentrations at the mound facility do not exceed standards.

The report included a review of the lead Materials Production Centre in Fernald, Ohio, the first Mound Laboratory in Mississippi, Ohio, the Savannah River, South Carolina, Fuel Fabrication Plant, the Savannah River Reprocessing Facility, the N-reactor in Richland, Washington, the Reprocessing Plant at Richland, the Rocky Flats Fabrication Plant in Colorado and the Y-12 Plant at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

"Groundwater at eight of the

Japan upholds death penalty on ex-Red Army leaders

TOKYO (R) — Tokyo high court upheld death sentences Friday on two former leaders of the ultra-leftist Japanese Red Army accused of killing 17 people, a court official said.

The pair were charged with killing 14 members of their own group as well as two policemen and a civilian between 1971 and 1972.

The court rejected appeals by Hiroko Nagata, a 41-year-old woman, and Hiroshi Sakaguchi, 39, and ruled that they were responsible for the murders, most of which took place at their mountain hideout in Central Japan.

Japan hanged five convicts between 1980 and 1984 but does not normally announce executions at the time.

The high court also refused to change a lower court's 20-year prison sentence on former Red Army commander Yasuhiro Uegaki, 37, who took part in the mass slaughter.

In previous court proceedings Nagata and Uegaki insisted they had not intended to kill their colleagues and that they were obeying instructions from former Red Army leader Tsunao Mori.

Mori committed suicide in prison before the lower court trial started in 1973.

Eleven other Red Army leaders and commanders had been found guilty by the lower court and sentenced to terms ranging from four years to life imprisonment.

Malaysia expels two reporters, bans paper

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia Friday ordered two correspondents of the Asian Wall Street Journal to leave the country and banned sales of the newspaper for three months.

The national news agency Bernama quoted a Home (Interior) Ministry statement as saying John Berthelsen and Raphael Pura had 48 hours to leave after receiving notification of the cancellation of their work permits.

Berthelsen, the journal's correspondent for Malaysia, was not available for comment. Pura, the paper's Kuala Lumpur-based regional correspondent, is out of the country.

The ministry earlier said the journal's publishing permit had been withdrawn for three months. Malaysia was liberal towards the press but "this attitude must be reciprocated... with a sense of responsibility and accountability," it said.

The ministry said the ban was imposed after it studied articles in the Hong-Kong-based journal, a sister publication of the Wall Street Journal in New York. It did not elaborate.

The paper had no immediate comment on the expulsions of the correspondents. But editor and publisher Fred Zimmerman had issued a statement in Hong Kong saying the sales ban was announced.

"We protest the decision by the Malaysian government which we believe to be unfair, unjustified and unwarranted," he said.

He added "we are requesting the Malaysian government to reverse the decision."

"The real losers in the ban will be the people of the Malaysian business community their government is depriving them of essential business information from Malaysia and other parts of the world."

"We are proud of the accuracy and integrity of our reporting in Malaysia."

The journal published articles this week about Malaysia's admission that it tried to corner the world tin market in 1981 and 1982, and debate over the country's new economic policy to redistribute wealth more evenly.

Another article dealt with Finance Minister Daim Zaidin's planned sale of a large stake in a local bank to a state holding company and about troubles at another bank.

Last October, James Clad, chief correspondent of the Hong Kong-based Far Eastern Economic Review was fined 10,000 ringgit (\$4,000) under the official secrets act and left the country in January after his work permit was not renewed.

A local reporter also was fined under the act in January. Issues of some foreign publications were banned or delayed because of coverage of a constitutional crisis in 1984.

Aquino plans Japan visit

MANILA (R) — Fresh from a resoundingly successful visit to the United States, Philippine President Corason Aquino has started planning a November visit to Japan in search for aid and investment to pull the country's economy back on its feet.

Japanese embassy sources said Friday that details of the trip were currently being finalised. No specific dates have been agreed, but she is expected in Tokyo around the middle of the month.

Japan is the Philippines' second largest trading partner after the United States and is a potential source of large investments that will be needed if Mrs. Aquino is to stop the economy shrinking, as it has done in the past two years.

"Economic matters will be the key points to be covered during President Aquino's visit," said one Japanese diplomat.

It will be Mrs. Aquino's third overseas trip since a military revolt swept her to power in February, ending the 20-year rule of President Ferdinand Marcos.

She returned Thursday from a visit to the United States where she said she was pleased with her talks with officials and creditor banks of the Philippines.

During expected meetings with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and other Japanese leaders, Mrs. Aquino is likely to ask Japan to import more Philippine goods and encourage investment by Japanese businessmen in the Philippines to create jobs and stimulate the economy.

Nakasone admits carelessness in making racist remarks

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone admitted Friday he had been careless in commenting on race and education standards in the United States.

The admission was made to a senior member of his political party and is the closest Mr. Nakasone has come to meeting opposition and U.S. demands for a retraction and apology.

His comment on relative levels of learning in Japan and United States angered leaders and representatives of black and Hispanic groups, including some U.S. politicians.

Kyodo News Agency said Soudo Uno, acting secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), spoke to reporters after meeting Mr. Nakasone Friday and quoted the prime minister as saying: "I was careless. Great care has to be taken. There is a mistake on my part..."

He noted then that his speech also outlined how much had been achieved by the United States despite difficulties posed by the country's multi-racial makeup.

The U.S. government said Thursday it accepted Japan's explanation that the remarks had been taken out of context and were not intended as a racial slur.

Salvadorean rebels say talks with Duarte possible

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Salvadorean rebel leaders say they believe talks with the country's government are still possible but will be difficult to arrange after the failure of last week's scheduled meeting.

Guillermo Ungo, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, the rebels' political organisation, said Thursday he thought it would be "very difficult for there to be a dialogue soon because the facts have shown that (the) government has no real will for dialogue but seeks a game of appearances."

The rebels pulled out of a scheduled Sept. 19 meeting with representatives of the U.S.-backed government when troops moved into Sesori three days after the two sides agreed on the small town in north eastern El Salvador as the site for the talks.

President Jose Napoleon Duarte showed up for the meeting and chided the rebels for their absence.

The meeting would have been the third round of peace talks aimed at ending nearly seven years of civil war. Talks held in October and November of 1984 ended in a stalemate.

Mr. Ungo, who has lived in Panama since 1980, said the alternative for the guerrillas was the "deepening... of the war with all the human, social and economic costs that represents."

He spoke in an interview with

the Associated Press at a meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Committee of the Socialist International.

Heator Oqueli, another high-level member of the front, said the rebels were awaiting a response from Archbishop Arturo Rivera Damas on prospects for another preparatory meeting for a third round of talks.

Such a preparatory session would try to produce agreement on security, demilitarisation of the site and the presence of observers and diplomats.

"We do not believe all the doors are closed, although... (Duarte) in Sesori said they were not going to agree to new preparatory meetings," Mr. Oqueli told the AP.

The rebels seek participation in government and the army pending new elections. Mr. Duarte has rejected that and called on the rebels to lay down their arms and join the democratic process.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, the alliance of five guerrilla organisations fighting Mr. Duarte's government, said in a broadcast on clandestine Radio Venceremos Thursday that they had killed or wounded 320 government soldiers taking part in counterinsurgency operations in the eastern part of the country.



Cyprus confirms 1st AIDS case

NICOSIA (R) — The first case of the deadly Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) disease has been confirmed in Cyprus, a Health Ministry official said Friday. Commenting on newspaper reports that the disease had reached the Mediterranean holiday island, the official said a patient was being treated for AIDS at Larnaca hospital. The official declined to identify the patient. Newspapers said the victim was a 25-year-old Greek Cypriot woman singer who had been working at Ayia Napa, a popular east coast tourist resort.

The official said a case of Hepatitis-B, a disease sometimes associated with the AIDS virus, was being treated in Nicosia General Hospital and that tests were being carried out to establish if the patient was an AIDS carrier.

Man kills wife, lover in court

TUNIS (R) — A national guardsman shot dead his wife and the man he alleged was her lover in a courtroom as a judge was preparing to hear their adultery case, court sources said. Court officials and spectators fled in panic as the uniformed guardsman drew his pistol and shot the couple before being overpowered by police. He opened fire with six shots as the courtroom in the main courthouse in central Tunis was being cleared for a hearing behind closed doors, as is usual in an adultery case. One bullet hit the wall behind the judge, the sources added.

Plane lands after passengers report offensive odour

DENVER (AP) — A jetliner carrying 205 people made an unscheduled landing to remove two coffins from the cargo hold after passengers complained they were overcome by offensive odours, a United Airlines spokesman said. About seven passengers remained in Denver so they could be checked at hospitals. Joe Hopkins, a United spokesman, said after the incident. The pilot of United's Flight 686 from Las Vegas, Nevada, to Chicago requested permission to make the landing at Stapleton International Airport after passengers complained of dizziness and breathing trouble on the plane, Hopkins said. "I have heard there was a powder material they put in (coffins for air transport)," Hopkins said. "Apparently it was not working."

After the coffins were removed, the Boeing 767 was aired out and the flight resumed about an hour later.

Calvin Klein marries

ROME (AP) — Calvin Klein, the 43-year-old American fashion designer famed for his blue jeans and high-priced Western wear, married one of his design assistants Friday, Kelly Rector, in her 30s, and Klein kissed for photographers as they emerged from a side door of Rome's city hall into the broad 17th-century square designed by Michelangelo atop Rome's Capitoline Hill. The bride, wearing a cream-coloured formal suit, tossed her bouquet of white roses and orchids to a female friend, then stopped to answer questions from waiting reporters. Asked who designed her wedding outfit, she responded, "Calvin, of course."

Policeman jailed for biting off rival's ear lobe

CARDIFF, Wales (AP) — A policeman was convicted and jailed for six months Thursday for biting off another officer's ear lobe during a rugby match between two Welsh police forces. A jury at Cardiff Crown Court found Constable Richard Johnson, 31, guilty of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. "The violence you used was a dreadful example of football hooliganism," Judge John Rutter told Johnson. "Violence by players on the field and spectators off it is a sickening feature of life today." The judge said the public would be outraged by anything less than a jail sentence. British sporting events long have been plagued by violence, especially among soccer fans. Johnson was accused of biting off the right ear lobe of Newport Police Constable Keith Jones, 40, during a rugby match last November at the Gwent Constabulary Sports Ground.

Congress challenges Reagan over spending

WASHINGTON (R) — The House of Representatives Thursday night approved a controversial \$558 billion spending bill which contains a direct challenge to President Reagan's defence policies and could lead to a head-on clash between the House and the oval office.

The bill, designed to keep the government operating through 1987, calls for huge cuts in foreign aid and defence spending, but contains \$100 million for Nicaraguan rebels.

The vote in the Democratic-led House was 201 to 200.

President Reagan has threatened to veto the legislation — called a "continuing resolution" — because of four arms control provisions that he sees as an unprecedented challenge to his policies.

In voting for the bill the House in effect demanded a ban on nuclear testing, a ban on anti-satellite weapons testing, a one-year delay in production of chemical weapons, and a requirement that Mr. Reagan

continue to abide by the SALT II arms limitation treaty.

In addition, the House bill slashed the spending appropriation for Mr. Reagan's cherished "Star Wars" missile defence programme by more than \$2 billion, from \$5.3 billion that the president requested.

The House bill calls for \$285 billion in defence spending for 1987, much less than the \$320 billion Mr. Reagan initially sought.

The bill would provide \$12.9 billion for foreign aid funding, more than \$2 billion less than Mr. Reagan requested. The bill would force massive cutbacks in aid for most countries.

Key House Democrats said the reductions were necessary to stay within the Gramm-Rudman budget-balancing law, which Mr. Reagan urged Congress last year to pass.

The Senate still must act on the bill, which provides funds for every major government programme, including farm loans, education, defence and foreign aid.

EC appears prepared to relax radiation rules

BRUSSELS (R) — Under pressure from its major nuclear producers, the European Community (EC) appears ready to relax strict rules on radiation levels in food imposed after the Chernobyl nuclear accident, diplomats said Friday.

They said the debate on radiation levels had been joined once again ahead of the expiry on Sept. 30 of temporary regulation setting maximum permitted levels for imported foods throughout the 12-nation Community.

Representatives of the 12 states at European Community headquarters were unable to agree Thursday on proposals to extend the regulations until the end of January. This would have allowed time for full consideration

of more permanent arrangements. The diplomats said France, which depends on nuclear power for 70 per cent of its electricity, insisted that any extension should be linked to a strict timetable for bringing in a different system for measuring the fallout from nuclear installations.

The French objections blocked agreement at Thursday night's talks.

But the diplomats said the representatives were to meet again on Monday in a last minute bid to clinch a deal before the expiry of the current regulations.

Failure to extend the regulations would leave the Community without common rules on imports of radiated foodstuffs from Oct. 1.

G.I. brides return home after 40 years

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) — There were chocolates and nylon stockings, World War II jeeps and generals and even a white wedding dress for anyone who wanted to try again.

It was the first European reunion for the "G.I. brides" who crossed the Atlantic to the United States and Canada 40 years ago and 250 showed up Thursday night for a ship down memory lane filled with laughter and tears.

The English girls who stole the hearts of American and Canadian soldiers during the war and followed them home were back on British soil — dining on spam and fish and chips, dancing in long snaking chains and belting out old favourites like "We'll meet again."

If you ignored the gray hair and wrinkles, it might have been wartime England. An air raid siren wailed to start the reunion and G.I.s in World War II uniforms masquerading as famous generals and unknown privates mingled with the crowd in Southampton's Guildhall — handing out the soldiers' old standbys of chocolates and stockings to a few lucky ladies.

Outside in the parking lot, Emily and Dudley Fenn of Kissimmee, Florida, cuddled up in a World War II jeep.

Had she ever been coaxed into a jeep during the war?

"A weapons carrier — it's bigger than a jeep — and he didn't

coax me. I was looking for a ride," Mrs. Fenn retorted with a big smile.

In the lobby of the Guildhall, a popular dance spot during the war, Betty Arrieta of Moreno Valley, California put on a long white wedding gown and veil and posed for pictures with her husband Mark, a former B-17 pilot.

"I didn't have a white wedding and I'm thrilled at last to have a white dress. Who could afford a white dress in the war?" she said.

"I'm going to send the pictures to my three children and five grandchildren."

For so many of the brides, there were teary eyes when they joined in singing. There'll Always Be an England and the British national anthem, God Save the Queen.

Southampton city authorities arranged the reunion. The brides who returned for the four-day event are only a fraction of the 70,000 war brides who sailed to the United States and 40,000 who went to Canada in 1946.

"I know some of them had bad experiences, some of them died and some of them were not lucky like me to get a gift of a free trip — but it makes you wonder what happened to them," said Phyllis Barthels of Gonzales, Texas.

For Mrs. Barthels and virtually all the other brides, leaving Britain was a wrenching and degrading experience.

During processing, every girl

had to strip and have a light shined over her by a doctor looking for lice — a practice the women still speak of with loathing.

"They talked to us like dogs. They thought we were part of the military. It was vile," said Sonia Faye of Pembroke Pines, Florida.

"It took me 35 years to get over being homesick," Mrs. Barthels said. "You're busy, your husband is good, your kids are good. But there's always a pull and I defy anybody to say anything different."

Joyce Sharp of Johnston, Iowa said when she stood on the deck of the Queen Mary watching Southampton fade in the distance, she cried and thought, "I'm never coming home again."

For Margaret Couch of Redmond, Washington, this was her first trip home to Southampton in 41 years.

"It was difficult with three children and then money wasn't plentiful..."

"But it's just a thrill to be back here. When I looked up and saw the civic centre and the clock and the tower a lump came into my throat. I said I can't believe it — it's still like it was 40 years ago. But the pubs are different, no dart boards and no separate room for the men."

Mrs. Couch and Mrs. Sharp said they considered themselves American and would move to the United States again — with the same husbands.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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TALK IS NOT CHEAP!

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J94
♥ A Q 4 3
♦ A 8 4
♣ K 7 4

WEST EAST
♠ 6 ♠ 7 6 3
♥ J 8 7 5 ♥ K 10 9 2
♦ K J 10 3 2 ♦ 6 5
♣ J 10 5 ♣ 9 8 6 3

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 8 2
♥ 5
♦ 9 8 7
♣ A Q 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Some bridge hyper-modernists believe you should do everything in your power to obstruct the enemy. That sounds well and good. However, just bidding for the sake of making your presence heard at the table can prove costly. On this deal from a team tournament in Europe, West's interference drew South a blueprint of the road to success.

Six spades is certainly the right contract. At the other table, North-South got to that spot without any

attempt by the opposition to get into the bidding. After the lead of the jack of clubs, declarer adopted a reasonable line.

He won the club in hand, cashed the ace of trumps, crossed to the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart. South reentered dummy with the nine of trumps and ruffed a heart high, hoping to drop the king.

When the monarch failed to oblige, declarer drew the last trump with dummy's jack and tried a diamond to the queen. West won the king and continued with the jack, and in due course declarer had to concede another diamond for down one.

Where West felt obliged to put in his two cents worth, declarer was warned that he could not expect to make his contract by leading toward the queen of diamonds. He won the ace of hearts, ruffed a heart, crossed to the nine of spades and ruffed another heart. The jack of spades provided the entry to ruff the last heart, and declarer drew the last trump. Next he rashed his three club tricks, ending in his hand.

With the groundwork laid, declarer led a diamond toward the ace-nine. When West produced the ten, declarer allowed him to hold the trick. West was then forced to lead away from his king of diamonds into declarer's combined tenace, and the slam was home.